

CHARITY SHIELD SPECIAL/LIVERPOOL V WEST HAM

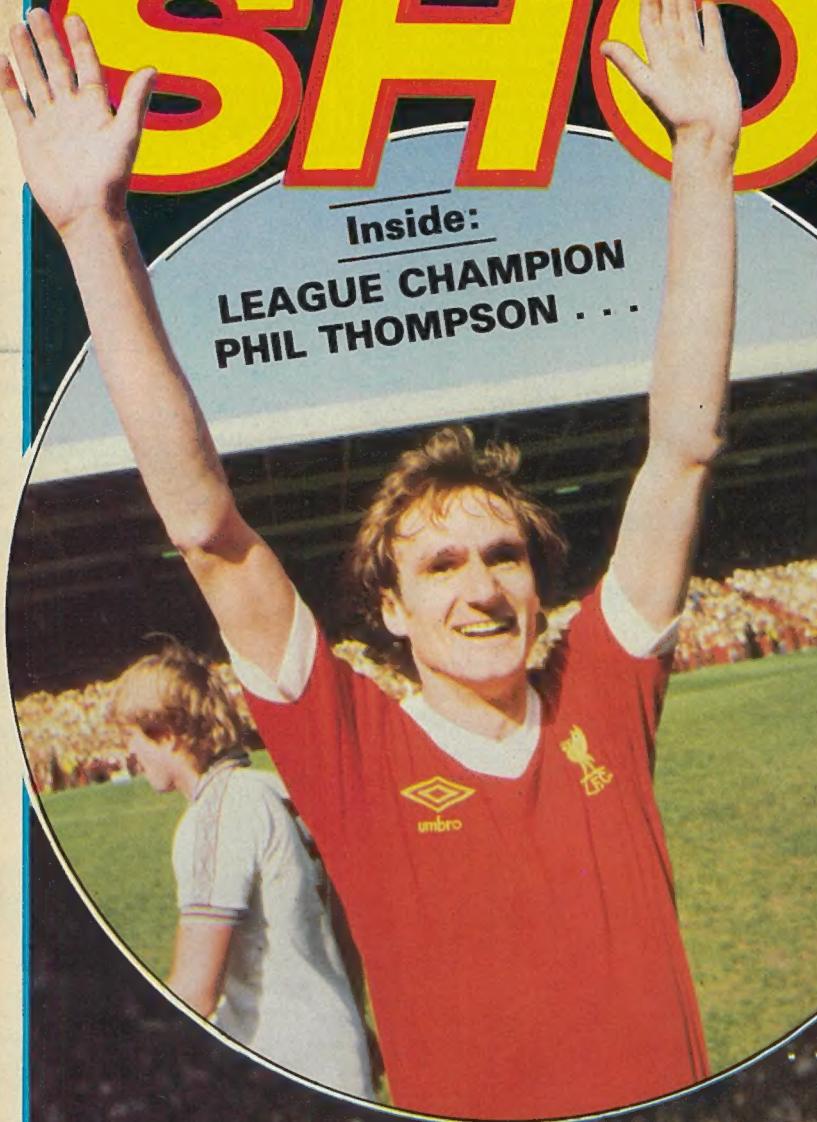
SHOOT!

22p

16th AUGUST, 1980

Inside:

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PHIL THOMPSON . . .



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SHOOT! View!

NICE touch from Everton when they appointed former midfield player Geoff Nulty as assistant-manager recently.

For at the end of last season Nulty seemed destined to join the seemingly endless band of stars prematurely discarded on the soccer scrapheap after a crippling injury had put paid to his career on the field.

Nulty's demise gained a lot of publicity. The tackle which inflicted the telling knee injury was televised, and just one of a series of niggling incidents during last season's Merseyside derby at Goodison Park.

Although Nulty is a qualified F.A. Coach, and also gained a B.A. at Open University last year, he has no previous experience of management. He will, obviously, learn his trade under Gordon Lee, but for the Everton board to agree to the appointment of a virtual newcomer to such an important position shows that there is still a human element within the game.

A quiet, intelligent man off the field, Nulty showed all the qualities asked of him by manager Gordon Lee on it. The former Newcastle skipper followed Lee to Everton from St James' Park, and it is good to see that the Goodison boss, himself under considerable fire, has taken up the opportunity to repay that loyalty.

Returned

Martin Hinshelwood was appointed youth team coach at Crystal Palace after he, too, was forced out of the game and at Sunderland former skipper Mick Docherty has been made reserve team manager. Across Stanley Park from Everton, Tommy Smith has returned to Anfield from Swansea after injury called a halt to his long and distinguished career.

Now Nulty's appointment demonstrates the growing sense of awareness within football that players still have a valuable contribution to make when their careers are over.

Not so long ago clubs were only too willing to cash in insurance premiums, pay the remainder of the injured player's contract and wave him goodbye forever.

Players come into the game with little training for any other occupation. It seems only natural that a professional footballer will be the best man to become a professional football manager, and when a player is robbed of his physical fitness and ability to carry out his chosen career, he is still left with an invaluable experience and insight into the game.

The belief that only the very top players are good enough to make an impact on management has been proved to be a myth. It is the true professionals like Geoff Nulty who have most to offer the game.

Times have not been easy at Everton in recent seasons, yet here is a club willing to take a gamble in the name of loyalty.

CAMERA shutters snapped shut and opened again a million times. Photographers strained at the leash, shoulder to shoulder, to focus their expensive lenses on the beaming subject. And they barked instructions with the gruffness of a parade ground major.

Clive Allen had arrived in the big time!

Arsenal's new superstar striker flashed them a melon-faced smile that would have sent toothpaste publicists into raptures.

"Clive here, here Clive." "Look right Clive, right old son." "Lift your chin Clive, chin-up lad . . ." Clive go there. Clive stand up. Clive

Les Allen, the former Chelsea and Tottenham striker, who has been a major influence on his son since he first signed professional.

Now he faces the full glare of publicity, his role will be to improve Arsenal's scoring rate.

Asked whether he could handle the pressure of trying to do the job Ray Kennedy, Malcolm Macdonald and others had done at the sharp end of Arsenal's attack in the past decade, Clive smiled and said: "Pressure? There's no pressure.

"In fact, I've possibly done myself a favour in moving to another club. I scored 30 goals for Rangers last season and the task

SHOOT takes you behind-the-scenes as Arsenal's £1.2 million summer signing Clive Allen enters . . .

THE BIG

sit down. Clive hug that football. Clive pose with Terry Neill . . .

It took Arsenal's £1.2 million capture from Queens Park Rangers less time than it takes to shoot a penalty to feel the kind of pressure normally reserved for royalty, pop stars and film celebrities.

Clive Allen was given the full treatment by the Press from the moment a posse of photographers emerged from the players tunnel at Highbury to take advantage of Arsenal's generous offer to photograph and interview players adored by half of North London and admired by most football followers in this country.

Clive sat down alongside his new team-mates on a metal chair placed roughly in the path that Graham Rix follows when he makes one of his mazy runs down the left toward the Clock End.

Immaculate

Not a hair out of place. Face polished and razored. New Arsenal shirt crisp and ironed immaculately. Shorts gleaming white and socks pulled on with seams as straight as an arrow. Boots gleaming with studs unworn.

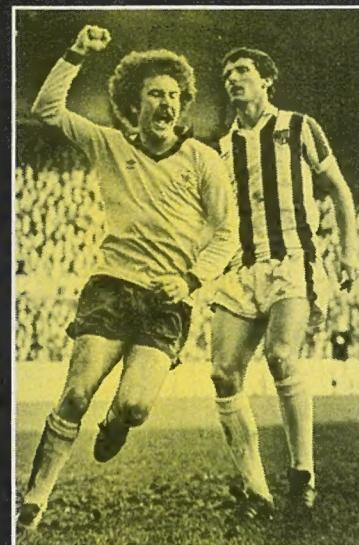
Clive Allen looked every inch an Arsenal star from his neatly coiffured locks to his size nine boots.

The smile spoke volumes.

"One of the happiest days of my life," admitted The Gunners' 19-year-old record purchase, sandwiched between his old chum from Q.P.R. days John Hollins and Steve Gatting.

"It's all happened so fast I can't believe it. Terry Neill phoned one day to say that he wanted me to join Arsenal, the next I had signed."

Clive hesitated for only 24 hours so that he could consult his father,



Alan Sunderland turns in victory after another goal — this time away to Stoke City.

of trying to achieve that success again would have been a problem.

"I come to Arsenal simply as a squad man. Terry Neill has not given me a specific role yet. When he signed me he said he wanted me to become part of the squad, to work in conjunction with others.

"There are many fine players at Arsenal. I am not the star here, there are many."

Clive cherished boyhood dreams of pulling on a Spurs shirt when he left school.

"My father played for them and I got to know Bill Nicholson. He became a friend of the family. One day I hoped to play for him. Now they are the enemy."

He has watched Tottenham more than Arsenal, although he has made a point of video-taping





A let off for Aston Villa as Frank Stapleton heads against the bar last season.

The Gunners Cup Finals and other important matches to examine their style of play.

When he posed for the cameramen on the lush green grass at Highbury which was soon to receive a shave from a man piloting a mini-tractor, Clive had not been given details of the role Terry Neill and Arsenal's coach Don Howe want him to play this season.

"I like playing down the middle," he admitted. He wore the number ten shirt at the photo-call, which could indicate that he will operate chiefly at Frank Stapleton's left shoulder with Alan Sunderland bearing down from the right.

John Hollins, who starts his 18th season, believes that the modest, level-headed Clive Allen can handle the publicity his transfer

has encouraged but could take time to settle into a goalscoring role.

Clive's former clubmate at Rangers, explained: "He has got to fit into the team. He developed a marvellous understanding with Paul Goddard and the rest of the Rangers team which resulted in him scoring 30 goals.

"Now he has to do it for Arsenal. Stapleton and Sunderland scored more than 20 goals each last season. If Clive also starts scoring freely, Arsenal could hammer in 100 goals this season.

"Clive's great asset is that he knows where the goal is. He is much quicker than when I first played with him and has a better working with other players as a member of the team."

John Hollins, one of football's most popular characters who weighs only three pounds more than he did when he broke into Chelsea's team as a teenager, has already taken Clive under his wing at Highbury.

"He has lots of friends here already," grinned Hollins before following Clive Allen into the dressing room.

For once Liam Brady had not been bathed in glory. The midfield maestro sat quietly in the line a few chairs from Clive Allen contemplating his future in football.

He seemed content to leave the talking to Arsenal's newest star.

TIME

Clive Allen (left) poses for the cameras with his new boss Terry Neill and former Queens Park Rangers club mate John Hollins, also at Arsenal.



Little's Villa Battle



ASTON Villa striker Brian Little (above, dark shirt) faces the toughest time of his life as he battles to show that his career has not been threatened by a cartilage operation during the summer.

Little missed a large chunk of last season with a knee injury and in the end it was decided that an operation was needed. That's when rumours that the quicksilver Little's career might be all washed up.

Just over a year ago a £600,000 deal to take him to neighbours Birmingham City fell down when the player failed the medical because of a back complaint.

That has had no effect on him but the trouble with the knee injury came as a bitter blow.

Said Little, who was out for a while four years ago following cartilage trouble: "The rest of the players have been having a break during the summer but I've been at the training ground trying to regain fitness.

"I'm pleased with the way things have gone since the operation and I have been able to do pre-season training with the rest of the lads.

"I know I'm not 100 per cent fit but it is important to get in some of the really hard work.

"I was troubled with the knee last season and played in a couple of games when I knew I wasn't really fit.

"I played in a reserve game and came through with no trouble, then a few days later I played against Leeds and was in agony.

"The problems with the knee lasted six weeks and when I went to see a specialist he told me the cartilage was shredded."

With new signing Peter Withe plus teenager Gary Shaw around and David Geddis still to prove himself at Villa Park, Little will be hoping that he is able to challenge for a first team place before the season gets too old.

And Villa, too, are looking for him to recapture the sort of form that gave him a place in the England team during Don Revie's time in charge.

A CUP FINAL FOR SHEFFIELD — IN THE FIRST ROUND!

ON the face of it you might think that only a computer would have pitted the two Sheffield clubs against each other in the two-leg League Cup First Round tie.

No human with a heart, you might say, would have asked the elated Wednesday club, its supporters still gulping in the oxygen of last season's promotion to the Second Division, to play dejected Sheffield United, whose supporters not so long ago were at their lowest morale for years after seeing certain disappointing elements creep into the side's approach to the game and destroy any chance of going up with their Wednesday rivals.

As it is, enthusiasm is mounting in the City and the two games — at Wednesday's ground on the 9th August, the return at United three days later — could be sizzlers.

Many see it as a chance for Wednesday to flex their muscles in

preparation for their onslaught on the Second Division.

United, willing it seemed to sell everyone in sight after the miserable second half to last season, will be looking to new signings, Mike Trusson from Plymouth, Bob Hatton from Luton and Stewart Houston, the former Manchester United full-back, to inject some confidence into the team.

An appalling list of injuries last season forced Haslam to use about 30 players in his first team, ruining any chance of consistency. Now his Argentinian 'entertainer' Alex Sabella is with Leeds United.

Favourites

The well drilled Wednesday side are favourites to win the tie. Inspired by Terry Curran, who notched up 23 League goals last season, Wednesday will be able to field a team that remained relatively unchanged throughout last season.

United, in contrast, are relying heavily on newcomer Hatton for goals now top scorer Jeff Bourne has gone.

But however you look at the form of the sides, one thing is certain ... a lot of people are going to turn up to see the games. When they met last Boxing Day 49,309 packed the Wednesday stadium. On the Easter Monday, 42,526 saw the match at United.

Jeff Johnson, voted by supporters as Wednesday's Player of the

"I know they have not got Sabella, who played well against us at their place, but with newcomers in their team it could be close. We'll be doing our utmost. Cup competitions like this give you the chance of playing big clubs. You look forward to another good match when the names go in the draw."

Harry Haslam, the United manager, accepted that many supporters will be using the League Cup matches as a guide as to how the team will fare through the season. "There is a lot to be done here," he said, "and with our new board (major changes in the close season in the boardroom have given the club a much healthier base in the eyes of its bankers) it should start an attacking policy from the top



Year, gave us his view of the League Cup opener to the season. "Knowing that these big matches are before us everybody has been training extra hard. It won't be a question of us starting 'cold', we'll all be fit after playing in a few friendlies. We'll all be looking forward to the clash with United ... it means another big crowd and a great atmosphere."

The former Manchester City and Crystal Palace striker now playing central midfield for Wednesday went on: "Realistically, I feel we should get through to the next round. Cup matches, especially when they involve local derbies, level the chances of the teams.

that will spread through the club.

"If there's any pity at all in Wednesday and United meeting right at the start it is that neither team will have been able to run themselves into form. The good fact about the games is that there will be nearly as many people watching the two ties as there will be at Wembley for the Final! In a way Sheffield is having a Cup Final before the season starts!"

The computer's selection it seems was right. Usually our great game starts quietly, almost apologetically. This time, at least in Sheffield, football will get all the hullabaloo it needs to announce its entrance.



Sheffield United manager Harry Haslam has set about rebuilding his side after failing to gain promotion.



Wednesday's Terry Curran (stripes) goes close in last season's League meeting at Bramall Lane.

LEAGUE CUP FIRST ROUND DRAW

Wrexham v Burnley	Doncaster v Mansfield
Chester v Stockport	Rotherham v Bradford
Port Vale v Tranmere	Watford v Millwall
Wigan v Crewe	Peterborough v Fulham
Carlisle v Rochdale	Northampton v Reading
Blackburn v Huddersfield	Southend v Oxford
Bury v Halifax	Brentford v Charlton
Walsall v Blackpool	Aldershot v Wimbledon
Grimsby v Notts County	Colchester v Gillingham
Chesterfield v Darlington	Torquay v Cardiff
York v Hartlepool	Bournemouth v Swindon
Lincoln v Hull	Plymouth v Portsmouth
Scunthorpe v Barnsley	Exeter v Bristol Rovers
Sheff. Wed. v Sheff. Utd.	Hereford v Newport

First-legs to be played Saturday, August 9. Return legs during week commencing Monday, August 11.

The League kicks-off in Scotland on Saturday

DEFENDING Premier Division Champions Aberdeen will be brought back to earth with a bump when they kick-off the new season against St. Mirren at Love Street on Saturday (August 9).

"We always enjoy our games against The Dons," says Saints' cultured back-four man Jackie Copland. "They are a good footballing team and so are we. It should be 90 minutes of pure entertainment for the fans."

Aberdeen will know exactly what it means to be Champions with every team gunning for them, but manager Alex Ferguson says: "That's the way we like it. We are afraid of no one and we are determined to hold on to our title. Don't think last season's victory was a one-off success."

"We won the Championship fairly and squarely and we intend to keep it by the same methods."

Importance

Those words from Ferguson are refreshing in a day and age when safety-first tactics can be of paramount importance.

The clash at Love Street will be one of the best of the day North of the border and another intriguing game will take place at Firhill where newly-promoted Hearts take on Partick Thistle.

Hearts have been trying desperately to add to their staff in the close season and it will be interesting to see if manager Bobby Moncur plays new signing Alfie Conn alongside former Ranger Chris Robertson in his attack.

The last time Conn and Robertson were on the same pitch was four seasons ago... with Conn playing for Celtic and Robertson coming on as a late

DONS' DELIGHT

substitute for Rangers in the Scottish Cup Final at Hampden.

Conn went on to pick up a winner's medal that afternoon, but their careers have dipped somewhat since that occasion.

Alfie, one of the few players to have played for both Celtic and Rangers, was freed by Billy McNeill two seasons ago and Robertson was dealt a similar fate by Ibrox boss John Greig last term.

"I didn't really get a chance at Ibrox," says Robertson. "I was in and out of the first team, but never got an extended run. I hope to be given that chance at Tynecastle. I know I have what it takes to be a success."

If Robertson plays against Thistle he will oppose international goalkeeper Alan Rough and he relishes the challenge of playing against the Firhill personality. It will be an exciting duel.

Thistle manager Bertie Auld has other problems, though, now that Colin McAdam and Jim Melrose have moved to Rangers and



Jackie Copland

Leicester respectively. That pair knocked in over 40 goals last season and those goals went a long way to making them safe in the Premier Division.

Auld has been looking at the transfer market for replacements and he has had talks with former Celtic pin-up boy Dixie Deans.

Deans, a marvellous goalscorer when he is on form, has returned from Australia and is keen to try his luck in Scotland again. Auld certainly knows all about his

goalscoring power... he used to play alongside him for Celtic!

The Parkhead men kick-off with a home game against Morton and they will be looking for two points from the start. Celtic had some enthralling tussles with the Cappielow side last season and one of the games in Glasgow erupted when Dom Sullivan netted a second goal for Billy McNeill's side.

The Morton players claimed Sullivan had been over the line before he came back on to the pitch to score from a tight angle, but the referee allowed the goal to stand and the game was then held up for about three minutes as the Cappielow players protested to the official and a linesman.

Order was eventually restored but, unhappily, Morton left-back Jim Holmes was ordered off for saying something out of turn to the linesman.

We can do without an action replay on Saturday!

Rangers travel to Airdrie and manager John Greig realises this will be a hectic battle.

"One of my last games at Broomfield as a player wasn't a very happy occasion," he recalls. "We were beaten 4-3, so I know how tough Airdrie can make it for their opponents."

The game is certain to be a



John Greig

sell-out as Rangers fans travel to see new boys Colin McAdam and Jim Bett — a former Airdrie player — in action.

Scotland's other Premier Division game is at Tannadice where Dundee United meet Kilmarnock. There will be plenty for the fans to get excited about for players such as Eamonn Bannon, Willie Pettitrew, David Narey, Paul Hegarty, Bobby Street, Bobby Houston and Alan McCulloch are all eager to make an impact this season and will be looking for a good start.

The First Division's match of the day is likely to be at East End Park where Dundee travel to meet Dunfermline.

Both teams are used to the finer things of football life and both are determined to book a promotion spot come the end of the season. May the best team win!



Aberdeen skipper Willie Miller celebrates last season's League Championship with manager Alex Ferguson.

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JIM ILEY aims to bring BURY TO LIFE



IT'S match day at Gigg Lane — the home of unfashionable Bury — and thousands of football fans stream through the Lancashire town and towards the tiny, neat ground.

But 99 per cent of them barely spare a glance at the floodlights as they speed past and on towards Manchester to pack the terraces of First Division United or City.

At Gigg Lane, the faithful — little more than 2,000 of them at times last season — can arrive only minutes before the kick-off and be sure of finding a place to stand.

With Manchester only 20 minutes away and Liverpool less than an hour's drive, it's easy to see Bury's problem in attracting the fans.

Only success will bring them through the turnstiles in any numbers and Jim Iley is the man who has just been handed the job of bringing it to a club with a brighter past than future.

Relegated to the Fourth Division last season despite a brave late run of good results, Bury still hold the record for scoring the most goals in an F.A. Cup Final — six against Derby in 1901. But the new boss isn't interested in that — he isn't even interested in any hard-luck stories about last season's fight against relegation.

"I'm not concerned if the players feel they were unlucky to go down. As far as I can see, it was a lack of goals which cost us our place in the Third Division — we only averaged a goal a game and that's not good enough.

"I want the players to realise that we went down and forgot about it. It has happened and

there's nothing we can do about it.

"We have got to be positive and think about going forward instead of looking back."

Iley vows that he will give the club 110 per cent effort — just as he always did as a fine wing-half with Sheffield United, Spurs, Nottingham Forest, Newcastle and Peterborough.

"That has always been my style, and I owe it to Bury. They've shown faith in me and I want to prove them right."

Bury gave Iley the manager's job after he had spent nearly two years out of the full-time game since being sacked by Blackburn.

It was the first time in nearly 30 years that he had not been fully involved in football either as a player or a manager.

Recalls Iley: "It was a strange experience, but it gave me chance to sit back and look at football from the outside.

"You see things in a different light and I believe it has made me a wiser and better manager. For the first time, I was able to relax and take stock of things.

'Delegate'

"In the past, my idea of managing was to attempt to do everything. If a thing needed doing, I would do it — which was why I could be seen painting the stand while I was in charge at Barnsley.

"Now, I've come to realise it's important to delegate a little more and perhaps use the extra time to take a wider view of things. That's what I'll be doing at Bury."

So, can Iley take Bury back into the Third Division against all the odds? He has known success before, after starting from the bottom with Barnsley and Peterborough.

"I won't make promises, but I'm encouraged by what I've seen at the club. We have a good balance, with experienced players like Pat Howard and promising youngsters like Danny Wilson. As always, I'll be giving it a go."

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2. Trevor made his full England debut in 1977. Was it against Holland, Scotland or Brazil?

3. He became Britain's first £1 million star when transferred to Nottingham Forest in February, 1979. At the time he was also contracted to play for American club . . . Cosmos, Detroit Express or Tampa Bay Rowdies?

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WHAT'S the most uplifting confidence-boosting aspect of being invited to appear in the Charity Shield game at Wembley, the curtain-raiser to the season?

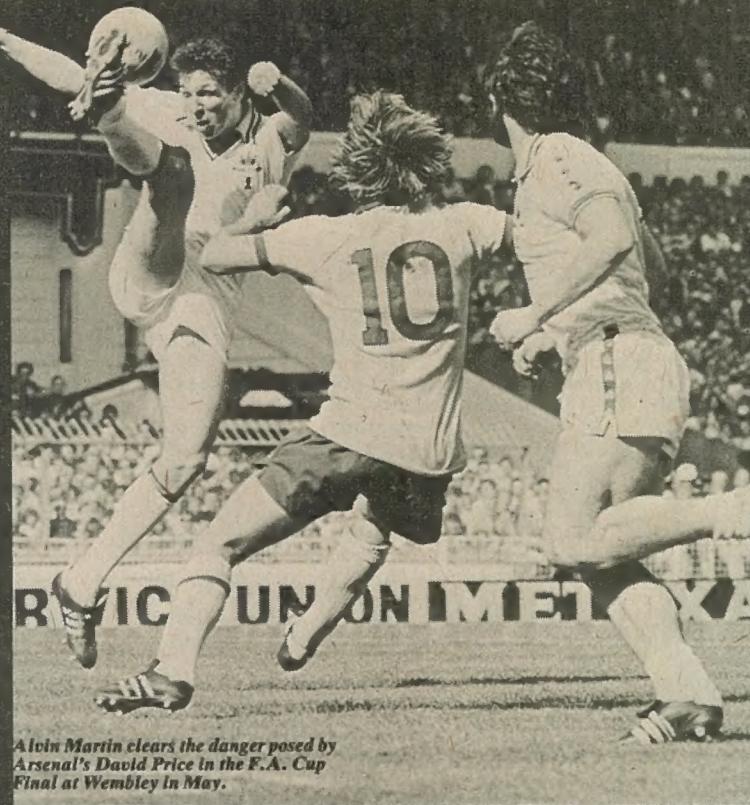
It's the satisfaction of knowing that you're there because you've won one of the two most sought-after honours last season: either the Championship or the F.A. Cup.

Liverpool got the F.A. invite through being Champions, a harder achievement as slogging through a gruelling programme of 42 League games, in all weathers, is required; whereas West Ham triumphed in a Cup competition involving far fewer games.

That's not to denigrate The Hammers, whose Cup run culminated in a shock 1-0 win at Wembley over Arsenal, the team who had knocked us out in a Semi-Final that extended to three replays.

Some critics contend it's unfair to start a campaign with a big game with a trophy at stake, as it places strenuous demands on players not yet match-fit. But the Charity Shield is unlike a Final preceded by a big build-up, imposing almost intolerable tensions and great expectations.

Certainly those teams involved



Alvin Martin clears the danger posed by Arsenal's David Price in the F.A. Cup Final at Wembley in May.

pool put on the greatest display I have ever seen from an English team!"

Another declared that no other team could possibly touch us, that the Championship was virtually ours before a ball had been kicked in earnest. The big question was: who would finish second to the Super Reds of Anfield?

Our professionalism should not have allowed us to be influenced by such fulsome praise. However, we're only human, with the result that we became complacent and took it for granted the Championship trophy was certain to remain at Anfield.

Consequently we approached our opening League games far too

'Alvin Martin — an unsung Wembley hero'

relaxed, had a string of bad results, and had to pull ourselves together.

The Liverpool philosophy is to have good players capable of working hard, thoroughly dedicated to giving everything for 90 minutes — or more if necessary.

That we did get back to working

'THE DANGER OF PLAYING TOO WELL...'

approach the event seriously and want to do their best, but there's no hard cutting edge to their play. You won't see crashing tackles or forwards throwing themselves fearlessly amongst defenders' flying boots in the penalty-areas in desperate bids to get goals.

It's an opportunity to display skills and to entertain the paying customers. And at the final whistle, players won't collapse with exhaustion and disappointment and shed tears at losing.

Everyone wants to get through the game feeling more prepared to face the big test — the following Saturday's first League game.

As far as the followers of the two clubs are concerned, there is more chance of getting tickets, particularly ones with seats, as there is not the demand from non-partisan fans as for an F.A. Cup Final.

From a personal standpoint, I welcome not being pestered for tickets by just about everyone I meet.

Although the Charity Shield doesn't rank alongside the two domestic Cups, it's a trophy we're always proud to hold at Liverpool. Ironically, the only time we failed to win it was when we played Leicester in 1971 at Filbert Street.

Then double-winners Arsenal couldn't compete through being on tour, so the F.A. invited us as losing Finalists and Leicester as Second Division Champions. We lost 1-0.

The most dramatic game was in 1974, when we played Leeds United, and the result was settled on penalties. Their 'keeper David Harvey, failed to convert, sending

Ray Clemence
TALKING SOCCER

the ball sailing over the bar, and our Ian Callaghan scored the decider.

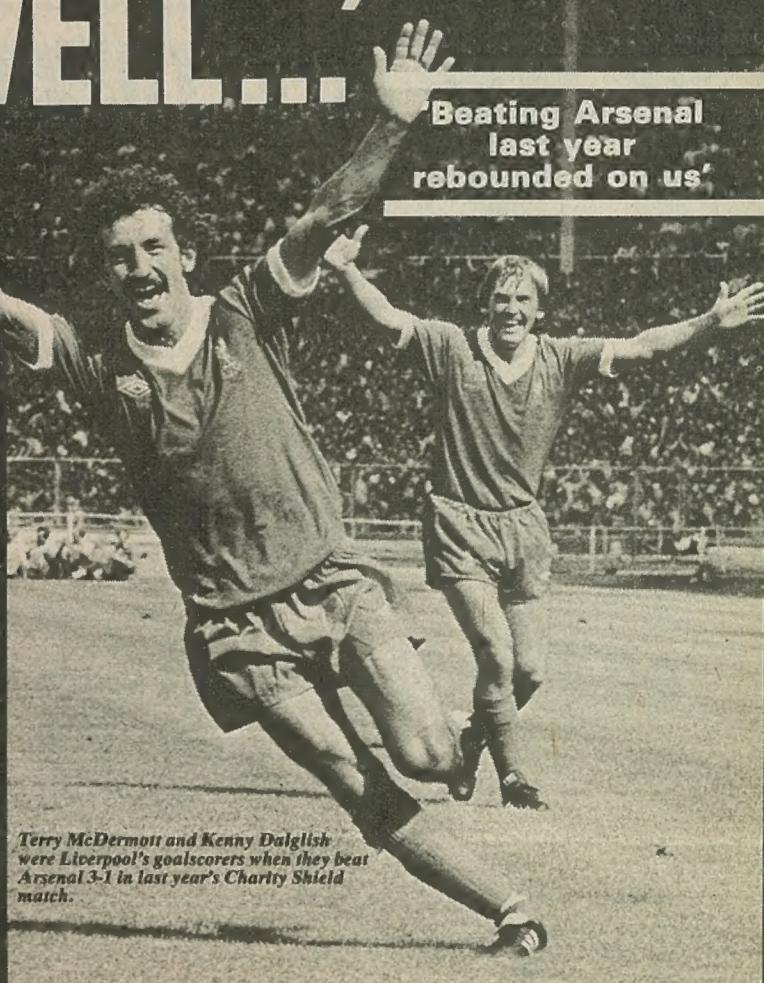
Unfortunately, the occasion was marred by the sendings-off of Kevin Keegan and Billy Bremner.

The penalty-taking in the event of a draw was subsequently abandoned, and after our goalless game with Manchester United in 1977, each club held the trophy for six months.

Although we want to play well at Wembley this year to re-establish our team work, there's a danger in playing too well! Puzzled? Well, I'll explain.

Last year, after a tremendous 3-1 win over Arsenal, the nation's football writers went into rhapsodies over our performance. One even went so far as to proclaim 'Liver-

Beating Arsenal last year rebounded on us'



Terry McDermott and Kenny Dalglish were Liverpool's goalscorers when they beat Arsenal 3-1 in last year's Charity Shield match.

hard is testified by that coveted piece of League silverware residing in our trophy room for a second successive season.

Arsenal also suffered from the result of that Charity Shield game. Their style is based on being well-organised, and by tearing them apart we dented their confidence so much they also started the season badly. Otherwise, they might have challenged us for the Championship harder than they did.

This season the North v South element is again present, with the London representation coming from West Ham.

Although The Hammers are still in the Second Division, we shan't repeat Arsenal's mistake in the F.A. Cup Final of regarding them as such. They rank as one of the finest football-playing sides in the League, still following the philosophy of Ron Greenwood, who managed them for so many years.

Their reputation as Cup winners over the years demands great respect.

The team from East London has a well-balanced blend of skill and aggression, youth and experience. Most notable amongst the players is Trevor Brooking, who has probably been at Upton Park longer than I have been at Anfield.

Diplomat

Trevor needs no introduction. He is one of the most stylish, creative midfield players in the country — in fact, the World — and his name is synonymous with that of West Ham. A great diplomat who is as impressive off the field as on it.

It's important we prevent Trevor from seeing too much of the ball, otherwise he'll open up the game and create goal chances for his team-mates.

Another England international in the West Ham ranks is Phil Parkes, who has more than justified being the most expensive 'keeper in Britain by proving to be a formidable "last line of defence".

It can be a heart-breaking experience being confronted by big Phil, as Arsenal's forwards discovered when he frustrated them time and again last May.

Comparative newcomer Phil has the benefit of two long-serving stalwarts in front of him in Frank Lampard and Billy Bonds.

Frank earned a special place in West Ham's history by scoring the goal that knocked out Everton in the Semi-Final replay.

The greatest compliment I can pay Billy is that he's got the Liverpool fighting spirit and never stops running and urging on his men until the ref whistles for end of play. One of the noisiest players on the pitch, Billy is very quiet and shy off it.

Alan Devonshire developed so fast — only a few seasons ago he was a Crystal Palace "reject" playing in non-League football — that last season he was called up for England. Alan is a perfect partner for Trevor, has good vision, can glide past players without seeming to move quickly, and is a better finisher.

But if Alan has had a dream-like



Alan Devonshire, a perfect partner for Trevor Brooking.

sequence in his career, what about Paul Allen, cousin of Arsenal's big signing Clive Allen, who is now in the record books as the youngest player every to appear in an F.A. Cup Final?

Many top class players never get the opportunity to play at Wembley, and yet here is Paul about to make his second appearance on that hallowed turf in four months as a teenager.

I admired the intelligent way he played in the Final: keeping things simple, giving the ball to the nearest West Ham player and not trying anything flashy.

He grew in confidence as the game progressed, and it was unfortunate when Arsenal's Willie Young brought him down outside the area after a thrilling run. I would have been interested to see whether he kept calm and beat the experienced Pat Jennings.

Full-strength

However, one young Hammer did not get the praise and recognition I felt he deserved — the centre-back Alvin Martin. An unsung hero, he did a superb job at the back, showing admirable calmness in tight situations, and not giving Arsenal's players a chance to get through.

Liverpool will field a full-strength side, the one with which Bob Paisley plans to start the League campaign. Our pre-season tour will sort out whether we field players such as Alan Kennedy, who dropped out through injury last season, or reserves who came in and finished the season, like Avi Cohen.

Despite what I said previously about Liverpool's approach to the Charity Shield game not being as competitive as for a Final, there'll still be a great will to win.

If there's one thing we hate — it's handing back silverware!

Milestones to look out for in 1980/81

Arsenal

Their eighth match will be their 3,000th League game. They have now scored over 5,000 League goals (5044).

Bury

Need six points for their 3,000th in League matches.

Chelsea

Their 20th League goal will be their 1,000th in Division Two. They also passed 400 goals scored in the League in 1979/1980, and the 26th goal against them will be the 4,000th conceded.

● Mike Fillary (below) scores for Chelsea against Newcastle.



Carlisle U

Their 22nd League goal will be their 3,000th.

Chesterfield

Their sixth defeat will be their 1,000th in the League, and their third goal will bring their total to 4,000 in the League.

Colchester

Need 18 goals to bring their total to 2,000 since joining the League.

Darlington

Will be playing their 1,000th Division Four match this season.

Everton

Their tenth League game will be their 3,000th in Division One. If they score 64 League goals they will reach 5,000 in the First.

Fulham

Their fourth defeat will be their 1,000th in League football.

Hartlepool

Will be playing their 1,000th Fourth Division match in 1980/81.

Lincoln City

The 18th goal against them in 1980/1981 will be the 1,000th conceded in the Fourth Division. The 40th goal conceded will be the 5,000th against them in League football.

Manchester U

Their third defeat will be their 1,000th in the League.

Mansfield T

They require 14 goals to score their 1,000th in Division Three and 30 to bring their total to 3,000 goals in the League.

Newport C

Ten goals against them will be the 4,000th.

Newcastle U

Need 32 goals to bring their total to 5,000 in League football.

Nottingham Forest

Need one point to bring their total to 3,000 in the League.

Oldham A

Need four wins to bring their total to 1,000 in League football.

Port Vale

Need seven wins to bring their total to 1,000 in League football.

Peterborough

Need 16 more points for their 1,000th in the League.

Stockport C

Need 23 goals for 1,000 in Division Four.

● Chesterfield hope to celebrate their 4,000th League goal this season.



HONOURS EVEN

—the last time they met

AS F.A. Cup holders West Ham prepare to take on League Champions Liverpool in the Charity Shield, older supporters may recall the meeting of the two sides in the 1964 version of the same game. The match was played at Anfield, but despite enjoying home advantage, Liverpool could not force victory, and after a thrilling 2-2 draw, the sides agreed to share the Shield, each taking possession for six months.

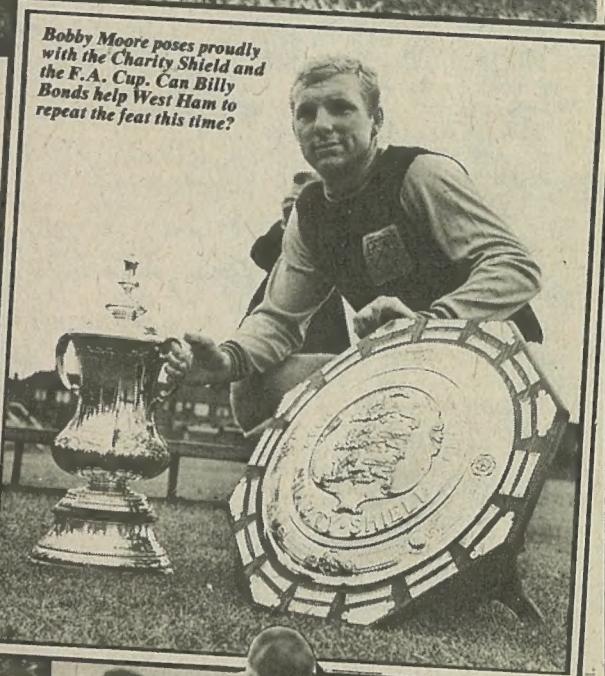
CHARITY SHIELD
16th AUGUST, 1964
— at Anfield
LIVERPOOL 2,
WEST HAM 2



A mistake by West Ham captain Bobby Moore led to the first Liverpool goal, scored by Gordon Wallace (left, dark shirt).



Liverpool's Ron Yeats and Gerry Byrne (below) combine to keep out West Ham striker Geoff Hurst.



Bobby Moore poses proudly with the Charity Shield and the F.A. Cup. Can Billy Bonds help West Ham to repeat thefeat this time?



Wallace threatens again, but this effort to break the deadlock was saved by West Ham goalkeeper Jim Standen.



'Why Liverpool must win'

— skipper Phil Thompson

ACCORDING to Phil Thompson, Liverpool have a special incentive in their Charity Shield encounter with West Ham. He says: "It's important for us to win our first game of the season — and this is it."

So for Thompson, the return of the Merseysiders to Wembley doesn't mean they will simply go through the motions for this particular match. He reckons the result against The Hammers will determine the mood of Liverpool in their opening League games of 1980-81.

"If we beat West Ham, we'll feel it's a good omen for the season, that we haven't lost our touch and can be reasonably confident of our ability to challenge strongly for honours again.

"But if we do come out on top at Wembley this time, we must guard against what happened immediately after the Charity Shield against Arsenal last year.

'Over-Confident'

"I thought we were brilliant against them that day, and everybody was praising us afterwards — in fact, we possibly became a little blasé, over-confident, which is not good in any team. Fortunately we snapped out of this mood and got back into our usual stride, but were disappointed that we didn't appear at Wembley in the F.A. Cup Final in May.

"The lads are keenly aware that it's a year since Liverpool played at Wembley, that the game is a showpiece and they want to do well in it.

"There is certainly no way we will underestimate West Ham. Just look at the players they have — Trevor Brooking, Alan Devonshire, Billy Bonds, Stuart Pearson, David Cross and Paul Allen.

"We all know about Trevor Brooking, and Alan Devonshire is being developed along the same lines. Bonds is a real professional,

a player I've always admired, and I know I'll have my work cut out against Cross and Pearson.

"David uses his elbows a lot, unintentionally, and he and I joke about it, and Stuart is a player who shields the ball well and is very difficult to dispossess. I don't know much about Paul Allen, but look forward to playing against him."

It is because Thompson respects West Ham that he refuses to make any prediction about the scoreline.

"I wouldn't attempt a guess at how many goals might be scored, but I'll be delighted if Kenny Dalglish comes through with an early one for us. And remember, we don't call Dave Johnson the 'Goal-Machine' for nothing, as he proved in his scoring spells last term.

"But I rate West Ham a First Division side, with some flair, and the football should be worth watching. During the last two years, Liverpool have thrilled people with their ability at going forward, even if at times we've done it too often for our own good, and I'm not anticipating a dull Charity Shield match.

"It's meant us getting into condition a few days earlier at Anfield, and obviously the match cuts into a close season which seems to be gradually shrinking.

"Yet I don't mind the extra training for the Shield game — no team can win too many honours, and at Liverpool, there's no danger that we are going to sit back and tell ourselves that we are automatically going to become the team of the 1980's.

"Everything in football has to be worked for, and I refuse to believe it when people say we may as well be given the League title now, because we are sure to go on and win it.

"Before we can think about the Championship, we've to beat West Ham at Wembley, and this is one pre-season fixture that we don't want to lose."

'A flying start for Hammers'

— Paul Allen

In the past four months Paul Allen has become the youngest F.A. Cup Finalist in history, helped Second Division West Ham to upstage Arsenal at Wembley and captained the England Youth team to victory in the Little World Cup in East Germany.

In the new season he faces another challenge in the European Cup-Winners' Cup and is also set to make further history by becoming the first player to win 19 England Youth team caps.

But before all that, the 17-year-old midfield player faces possibly the sternest test of his short career — a return trip down Wembley Way to take on League Champions Liverpool in the Charity Shield.

The incredible list of successes of Paul Allen in recent months have not affected the young lad who will be best remembered for the tears he shed at Wembley in May.

He remains as unassuming as ever. "I just hope that I am picked to play against Liverpool," he says. "They are the team all others must respect, and just to be on the same field as some of their players would be an invaluable experience.

"I have so many happy memories of my first match at Wembley, and I would love to repeat that success against the best team in Britain."

Success is certainly something to which Allen is rapidly becoming accustomed. Only weeks after the F.A. Cup Final he led England's Youth team to a 2-0 victory over Poland in the Little World Cup Final, scoring one of the goals.

"I was really pleased for manager John Cartwright, who has worked hard without ever getting the recognition he deserves. We never played as well as we can, but I suppose the end result more than makes up for that."

After that most recent of triumphs, Allen took a well-earned break from the game. "I had a month off in all," he continued. "I

spent ten days in Norway just relaxing and taking things easy, and now I am ready to go again.

"This time last year I had never played for the first team, and certainly wasn't expecting everything to happen so quickly. After the Cup Final I must admit I was beginning to feel physically drained."

Yet even while Paul was putting his feet up in Norway, the Allens continued to hog the headlines when cousin Clive signed for Arsenal in a £1.2 million deal.

Paul certainly doesn't resent the sudden switch in attentions. "I wish Clive all the best," he said. "The whole family were really excited when Clive's move was first mentioned and I am sure he will be a big hit with them.

'Upstage'

"There is certainly no rivalry between Clive and myself, and neither of us is out to upstage the other."

Nevertheless, the opportunity for Paul to put one over on his older cousin presents itself in the shape of the Charity Shield game.

"It is impossible for me to single out any individuals from the Liverpool side," said Paul. "I have never played against any of them, but I am well aware of their capabilities.

"Liverpool will be eager to get off to a good start to the season, and just because we are a Second Division side won't make any difference to their attitude.

"Whether they will allow us as much time and space to attack them as Arsenal did in May remains to be seen.

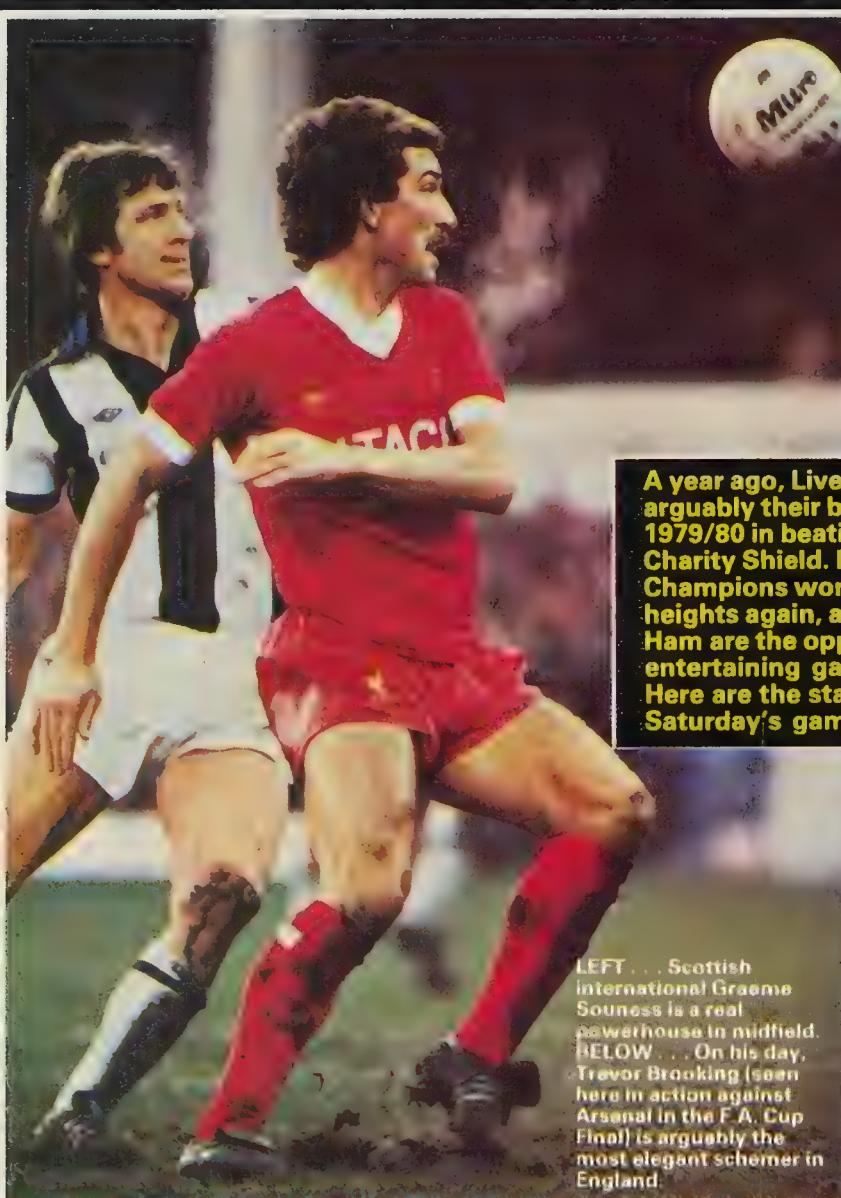
"But West Ham are equally keen to get off to a flying start. We have a tough battle to get back to the First Division, and beating the League Champions would be a great confidence booster."

"Whatever the result, I am sure our fans will have plenty to shout about."

The same could be said of Paul Allen . . .

LIVERPOOL V. WEST HAM all set for

A year ago, Liverpool played arguably their best football of 1979/80 in beating Arsenal in the Charity Shield. Perhaps the Champions won't reach such heights again, although when West Ham are the opponents, an entertaining game is guaranteed. Here are the stars who could make Saturday's game a classic.

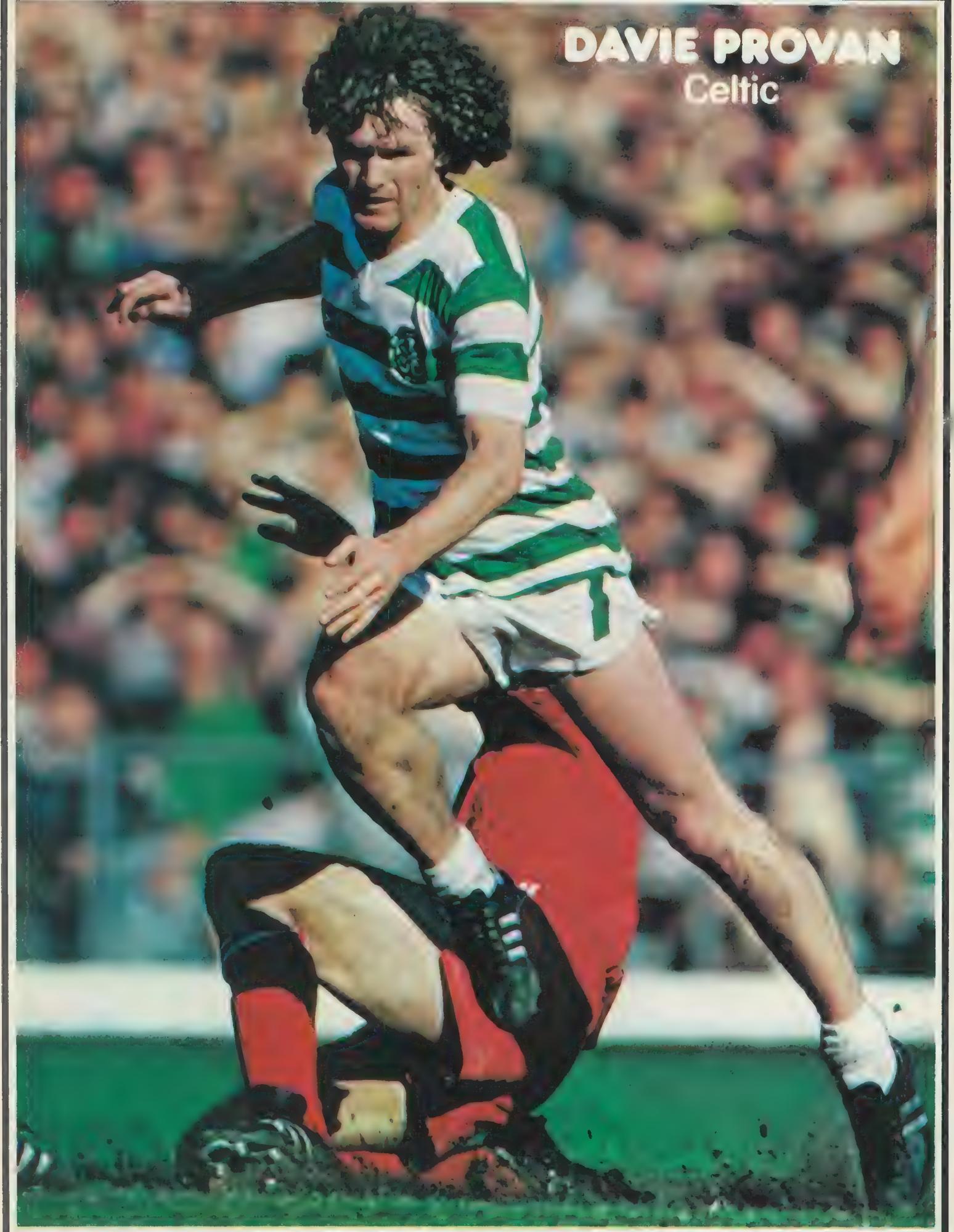


LEFT . . . Scottish international Graeme Souness is a real powerhouse in midfield.
BELOW . . . On his day, Trevor Brooking (seen here in action against Arsenal in the F.A. Cup Final) is arguably the most elegant schemer in England.



Two players who don't know the meaning of defeat: Liverpool's Jimmy Case and West Ham captain Billy Bonds (right).





DAVIE PROVAN
Celtic

REMEMBER how in April we predicted that Real Madrid would play their reserves in the Spanish Cup Final? Believe it or not, it actually happened!

And as Real had already clinched the Spanish League title, it meant that their reserves, nursery club Castilla, automatically gain a place in next season's Cup-Winners' Cup — the first time in the history of European football that one club has fielded two teams in Europe!

The Final was a huge money-spinner for Real, who pocketed two shares of the gate receipts and two shares of the TV and radio fees. For the record, the first teamers of Real won 6-1!

Ossie wants to stay

OSVALDO Ardiles has finished his holidays 'back home' in Córdoba, Argentina. His next stop was Budapest, to make a film alongside Pelé and Beckenbauer, before moving South for a spot of sunbathing in Marbella, Spain.

By the time Ossie reports back to Spurs for training he'll have travelled around 17,000 miles! In the meantime, he's turned down a £1,500,000 approach from Atlético Madrid, and announced to the folks back home in Argentina that he'd like to sign a further two-year contract with Spurs when his current one expires next summer.

WORLD WIDE

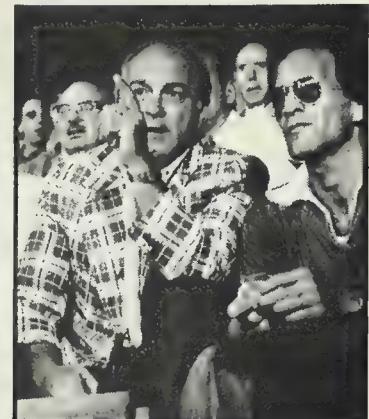


compiled by
CHRIS DAVIES

di Stefano sacked

ALFREDO di Stefano, the manager who master-minded Valencia's Cup-Winners' Cup triumph, has been sacked by the Spanish club! Neither the club nor di Stefano (below) are keen to talk about the reasons behind the decision, but the ex-Real Madrid star — a difficult character — is thought to have demanded the same sort of money as one or two of his highly-paid players, such as Mario Kempes.

The club refused to meet his demands, and club stalwart Pasieguito has once more stepped into the breach — for the third time in the last two years.



ENGLAND STARS ON BARCELONA'S WANTED LIST

BARCELONA have sounded out no fewer than 20 players and five managers with a view to signing them next season! The Spanish Press has been bubbling over with rumours of all descriptions, and one Barcelona paper recently

published a report in which the current manager Helenio Herrera gave his judgment on the various names involved.

Three of them were English — Kevin Keegan (who Barcelona could have signed six months ago,

but their hesitation allowed Southampton to muscle in), Trevor Francis (the price is felt to be excessive by Spanish standards), and Tony Woodcock (Barcelona have offered Cologne an exchange deal involving Allan Simonsen).

Here are Herrera's comments on the three English stars.

Kevin Keegan: Qualities: "Has class, works hard in all sectors of the field and has an undoubted footballing brain that allows him to read the game well."

Defects: "Not developed enough physically to be able to compete in Spanish football." Rating (out of 10) 8.

Trevor Francis: Qualities: "Excellent dribbler of the ball. Good feint and body-sweat at high speed. Has a lot of skill and talent, and plays more like a Latin footballer than an English one."

Defects: "I can't decide which is his correct position." Rating 9.

Tony Woodcock (left): Qualities: "Tremendously strong shot, a strong physique, scores a fair number of goals."

Defects: "He's English." Rating 9.



STRANGE situation in Peru, where the authorities wanted to sign Argentine coach Cavagnaro (once described by Menotti as a disgrace to his profession when he signed a contract to manage Racing for four matches!) to take charge of the national team. But the Peruvian Press has raised such a hue and cry about Cavagnaro's high wages that the latest I've heard is that they've backed out of the deal.



"It was outside the area, Idiot!" (from *Mundo Deportivo*, Barcelona).

HURRIED EXIT

GRANADA midfielder Gustavo Benitez has made a hurried return to his native Paraguay, and is now appearing regularly for South American Champions Olimpia of Asuncion.

Benitez's hasty departure from Spain came after the 27-year-old had been found guilty of distributing pornography and corrupting minors, and a Spanish court had sentenced him to seven years in jail!

"These things are not considered criminal offences in my country," said Benitez.

Ref posed as a priest

REFEREE Nacor Arouche, scheduled to referee a match in the Brazil Championship, verified that the only flight between São Luiz and Boa Vista would get him there too late for the kick-off. So he chartered a taxi for the 768 kilometers trip.

However, the cab broke down late at night in the thick surrounding jungle and unfriendly Indians came up to it and started to investigate the occupants — Nacor told them he was a priest and

showed his black refereeing uniforms.

Nevertheless, he was made to get out of the car and sit in the mud in the pouring rain. The Indians pulled his hair and looked into his mouth.

"Fortunately, another car appeared in the distance and this scared the Indians off, otherwise I feel we were for the chop," said Nacor.

The Indians (Waimiris Atroaris Tribe) are known to have recently killed another traveller on the same road!

Maier's soft farewell

STEPP Maier, the colourful West German international goalkeeper whose career was so cruelly shortened by a serious car crash a year ago, bowed out of football in spectacular style. Playing for the West German national team against his former club Bayern Munich, Maier entertained the 70,000 fans in the Munich Olympic Stadium in customary style. Bayern gave Maier little to do in the German goal, allowing the unconventional former World Cup-winner the opportunity to keep the fans amused. At various stages of the game, which the Germans won 3-1, Maier was seen to leave his goal unprotected while he played up to the appreciative gallery. At the end of the game Maier was given a tremendous send-off.



'I COULD BE DROPPED NEXT SEASON'

WHILE most of you lucky people were sunning yourselves on summer holidays, Rangers were already kicking-off for the new football season.

I remember the days when there used to be a close season, but those are only fond memories these days!

Rangers jetted out to Canada to take part in a four-team tournament for the Red Leaf trophy. The other three teams involved were Ascoli, of Italy, Nancy, of France, and Botofogo, of Brazil.

The experience of playing away from home in such a competition will do our younger players no harm at all and, in fact, I think we all learned a lesson in our opening match again the French side Nancy in Toronto.

We were coasting to a 3-1 victory,



but two late goals pulled us back to a 3-3 draw and there is no way the gaffer, Mr. Greig, will tolerate that in the new season.

There are no excuses. We let our concentration sag at the wrong time and that is suicide in soccer. We were punished and the message has been well and truly hammered out . . . **TAKE NOTHING FOR GRANTED.**

We had Nancy on the ropes, but we didn't put them down. Yet we played very well on the astroturf

which, of course, causes its own problems. Our physiotherapist Tom Craig was kept busy tending to burn marks on all the tenderest parts of the anatomy.

On a brighter note, it was marvellous to see the talents of young John MacDonald displayed to the Canadians.

They really took to his ball-playing skills and he was voted Man of the Match in the 3-3 draw with Nancy. I don't think anyone could argue with that award.

John, only 19-years-old, was magnificent and scored two memorable goals. I'm not putting any extra pressure on him when I tell you to look our for him in the new season.

He started last term well, but fell away. However, with that season's experience under his belt I'm sure

you'll see this teenager at his best in the coming years. We beat Ascoli 1-0 in another game which was so tough FIVE Italians were booked and our left-back Ally Dawson was kept overnight in hospital for checks!

Frankly, nothing but the best will suit Rangers in the new season. Every player has been made aware of that, believe me.

I might be captain of the club, but I know if I don't provide the goods out on the field then I'll be minus a first team place.

And that's exactly the way it should be!

Repeat

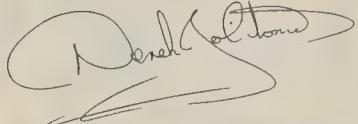
I've already said in previous columns that I wasn't happy with my form last season. I could give you a variety of reasons for that, but I don't want to. Instead I'll simply say I don't want a repeat this time out and I'll be doing everything in my power to make Rangers successful again after last season's barren year.

I can't expect Jock Stein to seriously consider me for Scotland again when I can't get my game together at club level. But Rangers are my main concern. Anything else is a bonus.

Rangers fans in Canada expressed their concern over our form last season. It's really quite amazing that our game should spread to all corners of the globe.

I stress that Rangers aim to keep ALL our fans happy in the new season . . . from Toronto to Troon; from America to Aberdeen; from Bermuda to Berwick. We want Rangers fans everywhere to be smiling at the end of the new season.

And I'm sure we will, mark my words; I'll gladly eat them at the end of 1980-81 if I'm wrong!



**TARTAN TALK FROM
CELTIC'S DANNY
McGRAIN NEXT WEEK**



NOBBY

IS THIS YOU BY ANY CHANCE, BOSS



YOU MUST BE JOKING! THE LAST FOUR WEEKS WERE A DISASTER!



WELL KEEP PLUGGING AWAY, THERE'S ALWAYS NEXT MONTH



MANAGER OF THE MONTH FOR JULY . . . THE MIND BOGGLES!



This week's Star Letter comes from A. McFarlane of Glasgow, who wins our Special Prize of £5. He or she writes:

LET'S HAVE FEMALE MANAGERS

The story of the end of the season is with us again. We find managers from all over the place departing the scene since they have not met with success, but is it not what one would expect?

Have these men had any training for the job which they are required to carry out?

Is it not wrong that the pedigree of a manager all too often is that he has been a successful player? Why no women managers in the game?

The onus is on the powers that be, who seem to delight in running coaching courses but never once have I come across one training a person to take on the role of manager. Yet there are certainly career opportunities in this field as well.

It is accepted that women do not have the same powers and stamina to make them players, but does that stop their organising and controlling influence which could come well to the fore if it was that they were appointed manager of a club?

The time has surely come for the Equal Opportunities Commission to look at this matter.

As long as the female boss looked like Bo Derek I doubt whether the players would object!

Wise Owl Jack

I would like to congratulate Sheffield Wednesday manager Jack Charlton on guiding The Owls to promotion.

In 77-78 Wednesday were doomed for relegation to Division Four. Then Charlton arrived and they lost only four games in 24, finishing 14th.

During the following season he bought and sold wisely but one deal wasn't very popular.

GOAL-LINES

Send your letters to STEVE CARTER, GOAL-LINES, SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd., King's Reach Tower, Stamford St., London SE1 9LS. U.K. readers receive £5 for the Star Letter—£2 for every other letter published. Overseas readers receive a special SHOOT T-shirt. Please state which size: small, medium or large. When writing to us please mention the two features you liked best in the latest issue of SHOOT! All letters must be exclusive to SHOOT!

He sold young goalkeeper, Chris Turner, to Sunderland. This made Bob Bolder, his replacement, very unpopular. Charlton, himself, took the blame and stayed with him.

Big Jack was right in doing so as Bolder played superbly in the promotion push.

I was also pleased to see The Owls' young central defender Mark Smith called up for the England Under-21 squad for the game against West Germany.

Now Wednesday are back in the top half of the League, I believe they're going all the way to the top flight where they belong.

C. HEELEY,
SHEFFIELD.

Jack's always been a winner, even if he hasn't made too many admirers outside Leeds and Middlesbrough.

Don't forget Cambridge

Looking at the Second Division table, I noted that my local club, Cambridge United, finished eighth. The teams that were above us were the three teams who were promoted (of course) and the supposedly big guns of Chelsea, Q.P.R., Luton and West Ham.

Our home attendances were the lowest in the Division, but is it surprising with the amount of publicity, or the lack of it, that we get?

When we entered the Second Divi-

sion, 'experts' wrote us off as relegation candidates and we finished in the middle of the table.

Last season was our best ever, and being a relatively poor club, we need all the publicity we can get.

Why is it that Newcastle, Watford, etc., get team pictures in SHOOT, are on television, and little Cambridge get nothing?

After all, we did finish above these teams last season.

CHRISTOPHER McGANN,
CAMBRIDGE.

It was good to see smaller Second Division clubs like Cambridge and Shrewsbury making a good account of themselves last season.

More than two

After reading Harry Catterick's views in SHOOT, I was astonished when he said that Liam Brady and Kenny Dalglish are the only players from Division One he would like to go and see.

The whole Liverpool team is worth watching any day, while members of other First Division clubs are just as good as the top players that were around when Harry was manager of Everton.

I also found his comments on the national side rather strange. While I agree Kevin Keegan is outstanding and capable of holding a place in any team, players like Watson, Shilton, Clemence, Brooking, Francis and Wilkins could all



Peter Shilton and Ray Clemence

walk into the Dutch, Italian, or West German national teams.

I strongly believe our League football is as good as any in the world.

ANDREW MATTHORNS,

CHELMFORD.

The European Cup has been won by Football League clubs for the last four years — which must prove something.

Pen-Pal

I am an American serviceman who spent three years in England. I have returned to the States and would like a pen-pal to help me keep up with English football. I support Q.P.R., and Liverpool.

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• Who says management in England is "Madness"

• Why Pele says Zico is better than Kempes
And more, much more, in brilliant colour. News and views from inside the game are the trademark of Soccer Monthly.

Soaring Surf

PLAYER-coach Peter Wall has led California Surf to the top of the American Conference's Western Division. They're also joint top scorers in the League.

It's a great feat by Wall, especially as no one has managed to combine both jobs in the States before.

Says ex-Palace defender Wall: "People have said you can't combine playing and coaching but I think it's just a case of it never happening in the NASL before."

"As a player, I'm closer to the action than other coaches and I can get a better feel of what's happening on the field."



Soccer in the States



Unhappy Cruyff

JOHAN CRUYFF isn't happy with the NASL's 35 yard offside line.

Cruyff, who moved from Los Angeles to Washington at the start of the season, says: "The Americans want the offside line because they think it opens up the game and makes it more attacking."

"They are wrong. You must always leave people near the offside line to defend the goal. Without those lines, those defenders would come up to midfield to help out in the attack."

"If they would take both lines out, people could really enjoy soccer the way it is played around the world. It is stupid for the world to be playing one style and this League a different one."

The offside line isn't the Dutch star's only source of complaint this season.

He's been arguing with coach Gordon Bradley about his best position in the side.

Bradley wants him down the centre but Cruyff keeps wandering out to the left, where he thinks he operates best.

Cruyff is still looking for his first goal after ten games but he's got four assists.

Alan Green is lapping up his passes in the front line. He has scored seven in as many games.

goals by Cruyff and Green were disallowed, one for offside and one for a foul.

But League Commissioner Phil Woosnam (above) said: "At no time on soccer, or any other sport for that matter, may an official's judgment ever be used as the basis for protesting the outcome of a game."

"Anyway, after a thorough review of the game tape, I would like to point out that both calls were justified."



Soccer philosopher

IT would be fair to say that Paul Cannell (above) is not exactly enamoured of his former Newcastle boss Bill McGarry.

Cannell, recently transferred from Washington to Memphis, says: "McGarry's the type of guy that, if you were on a ledge 20 stories up and he asked you to come in, you'd jump."

Cannell left England to become a Diplomat in Washington and he's become a bit of a philosopher as well.

He says: "Soccer's a transient profession and players should always expect to get traded."

"In soccer, you don't get paid for loyalty. I'm pleased to have come to Memphis but I don't expect to be here forever. That would be tunnel vision."

Furphy joins Chiefs

KEITH Furphy came out from under the wing of father Ken at Detroit in order to join Atlanta Chiefs.

Judging by his performances since, he should have moved away from his dad earlier.

After seven games with the Chiefs, he had scored all the team's goals — a total of five.

He also managed to get them off the bottom of the National Conference's Central Division.

CALIFORNIA Sunshine of the American Soccer League have signed two players on loan from Irish side Glenavon. They are Gerry O'Kane and Ray McGuigan.

THE San Francisco Fog are the latest addition to the Major Indoor Soccer League.

And as if their name is not bad enough, they'll be playing at the San Francisco Cow Palace.

It is reckoned to seat 12,600 — people, that is, not cows.

NASL Standings

NATIONAL CONFERENCE	GAMES PLAYED	WON	LOST	GOALS FOR	GOALS AGAINST	BONUS POINTS	TOTAL POINTS
Eastern Division							
New York	12	10	2	35	16	26	46
Rochester	11	6	5	15	18	21	47
Toronto	12	5	7	18	21	17	47
Washington	12	4	8	22	26	20	44
Central Division							
Tulsa	12	8	4	16	14	14	62
Dallas	11	5	6	14	16	13	43
Atlanta	13	4	9	14	29	13	37
Minnesota	12	4	8	15	20	12	36
Western Division							
Seattle	13	13	0	32	9	24	102
Los Angeles	11	6	5	13	16	12	48
Vancouver	13	5	8	16	19	13	43
Portland	13	4	9	16	25	15	39

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

Eastern Division	GAMES PLAYED	WON	LOST	GOALS FOR	GOALS AGAINST	BONUS POINTS	TOTAL POINTS
Fort Lauderdale	15	9	6	27	25	25	79
Tampa Bay	13	9	4	26	20	24	78
New England	13	4	9	21	27	18	48
Philadelphia	11	3	8	12	17	10	28
Central Division							
Chicago	14	11	3	33	19	28	94
Memphis	13	7	6	20	22	17	59
Detroit	12	5	7	18	18	17	47
Houston	13	5	8	16	20	15	45
Western Division							
California	15	8	7	29	26	26	74
San Diego	12	6	6	17	17	14	50
Edmonton	12	6	6	18	16	13	49
San Jose	12	3	9	14	21	14	32

(*Note: Six points are awarded for each win, while one bonus point is given for every goal scored up to a maximum of three per team per game. No bonus points are awarded for either an overtime goal or the team shootout goal.)

Good calls

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"MY main ambition now is to be the manager of a team that wins the Premier Division Championship . . ."

Words of Motherwell manager Ally MacLeod, speaking two seasons ago after moving into the hot seat at Fir Park following his astonishing two year reign as boss of the Scottish international side.

MacLeod still has that burning ambition although his side kicks off the new season outside the Top Ten in the Scottish First Division.

"Modesty prevents me from saying Motherwell are easily the best team in this League," says MacLeod with his tongue firmly in his cheek.

Last season he spent £200,000 in bringing goalkeeper Hugh Sproat and midfielder Brian McLaughlin from his former club Ayr United



Motherwell manager
Ally MacLeod (left).



MOTHERWELL MOVE FOR BRISTOL CITY STAR

and recently he rocked Scottish soccer with his ambitious move for Bristol City's unsettled Scot, midfield dynamo Tony Fitzpatrick.

The bid was said to have been around the £400,000 mark and that would have been a record fee for a Scottish club.

MacLeod certainly hasn't lost his touch for the big-time, and, there is little doubt that Fitzpatrick would be a winner in this Fir Park side. His combative nature alongside the range and vision of McLaughlin is a mouth-watering thought for Motherwell fans.

'Reward'

Whether or not MacLeod succeeds in signing Fitzpatrick, Motherwell are clearly heading in the right direction and could fight their way into the Premier Division by the end of the season.

"The team is coming along fine," says MacLeod. "We played some nice football last season, but didn't always get our reward."

MacLeod should know better than most about the fickleness of the average football fan. In one week in 1978 his world turned upside down in Argentina.

He left Scotland proclaimed as a king, but when he returned he was met with a barrage of abuse. MacLeod lamented sadly at the time: "At least I know now who my real friends are."

The scars of Argentina might still be visible on MacLeod, but he has pushed it all into the background as he concentrates on giving ailing Motherwell a much-needed kiss of life.

They finished last season with a real flourish, but it was just too late to catch up with Hearts and Airdrie in the promotion race.

Now MacLeod and his assistant Davie Hay, the former Celtic and Chelsea star, hope they have got things right as they prepare for the big kick-off.

There is talent in this Fir Park team, but they found difficulty in getting into their stride last season as the players got used to one another's styles.

When things did click it was an exciting, entertaining unit. Motherwell, though, can expect a hard time of it in the First Division this time out.

Hibs, for a start, don't intend hanging about in the lower reaches and they are gearing everything to a swift return to the Premier Division after their inglorious exit last season.

Dundee, too, want a quick trip back upstairs, while Ayr United have shown rapid improvement and are determined to book a promotion spot for themselves.

So, it's going to be a difficult season for Motherwell. But MacLeod has promised himself that Premier Division title in the near future. That's one promise he intends keeping . . .



Tony Fitzpatrick could flourish under the guidance of former Chelsea star David Hay (left) at Motherwell.

THE annual meeting of the Football League produced no startling changes, although I felt sorry for Altrincham, who missed out on League status by a whisker. While I accept you have to be fair to the four Fourth Division clubs re-applying, I think there should be some kind of automatic promotion and relegation between Division Four and non-League football.

Perhaps if a club has to apply for re-election twice in five years, it should make way for a club such as Altrincham.

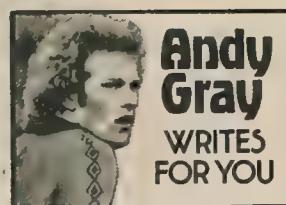
Non-League teams must have something to aim for and it must have been a big disappointment to Altrincham in view of their F.A. Cup exploits in recent seasons.

It's sad to see any club drop out of the Football League, but we mustn't hold up the progress of younger clubs.

Important

One change which did have me puzzled was that in future the only temporary transfers will be goalkeepers. I'm not sure what to read into this. It's almost saying that a goalkeeper isn't too important and won't have much bearing on a side, which, of course, is absolute rubbish. A goalkeeper is every bit as important as any outfield player. The loan system should either have been stopped completely or carry on as before.

It's good and bad; personally, I'd never go on loan anywhere. Clubs should be able to assess players



without having them on trial, and the player is put under tremendous pressure. He can try too hard to impress and it could work against him.

Perhaps a young player not a regular in the first-team would welcome the chance of League football elsewhere. It would be good experience for him.

I was pleased to see that clubs will now be allowed to have one paid director. For too long people have regarded football as a hobby instead of big business and it's only natural that soccer should fall in line with the rest of industry.

Nearly all directors are successful businessmen who devote much of their spare time to their clubs. Now, there can be one man on the board who is responsible for his club 100 per cent.

I see the managing director of a club (which is subject to F.A. approval) as a young man, perhaps someone around 40, who has been

retired for four or five years. He could lend the benefit of his experience to a club, while we may see tycoons from other lines of business entering football. Anyone with fresh ideas can only be good for the game.

The only major change I'd like to see is the appointment of full-time professional referees. I've mentioned this before in my column, but it is amazing that in a game which is played by players who are professionals, it's refereed by part-timers.

Surely to have referees who have no outside interests would be a boost? We hardly see officials, except on match days, and then some won't speak to you. I realise there are a lot of arguments against my idea, but what we desperately need is for the gap between players and referees to narrow and I can't think of a better way.

Next season players will have more freedom of speech; only once have I ever been 'gagged' and I remember feeling very frustrated.

It was during the period of my

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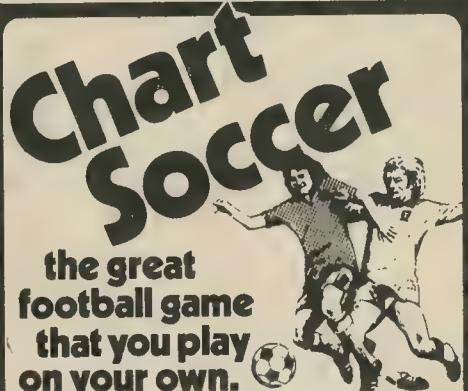
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SYSTEM BAFFLED'



"Altrincham (above, dark shirts) were unlucky not to gain election to the Football League after some fine F.A. Cup performances, including this one at Spurs. Jimmy Rimmer (right) one of the few goalkeepers to have been on loan. He had a spell at Swansea."

transfer from Aston Villa to Wolves and the Villa management said some things about me which made me bitter. I couldn't reply as I'd have been fined by the club.

I've always felt this was wrong, where a manager can say virtually what he likes about a player and the player can't give his side. I hope players don't abuse their new freedom, but no doubt one or two will surprise us!

Campaign

I'd also be in favour of playing the British Championship mid-week during the season instead of at the end of the campaign. I realise our fixture list is already bulging at the seams, with League Cup, European and other international football.

However, in European Championship and World Cup years it means a lot of football in a short time for some players who have had a hard season and are just off to Italy, Spain or wherever. In this respect I was impressed with the way Ron Greenwood handled his England squad during May. He changed the team for each of the three games, thus ensuring his players didn't become stale.

There is also the case that there is usually a British team in a European Final, which means those players won't play in the British Championship. This year it was Arsenal and Nottingham Forest and between them they would have supplied around ten players for the Home countries.

Arsenal, I'm sure, would like the old system of a European Final being replayed re-introduced. It is ludicrous to have a Euro Final decided on penalties — there must be time for one replay, at least.

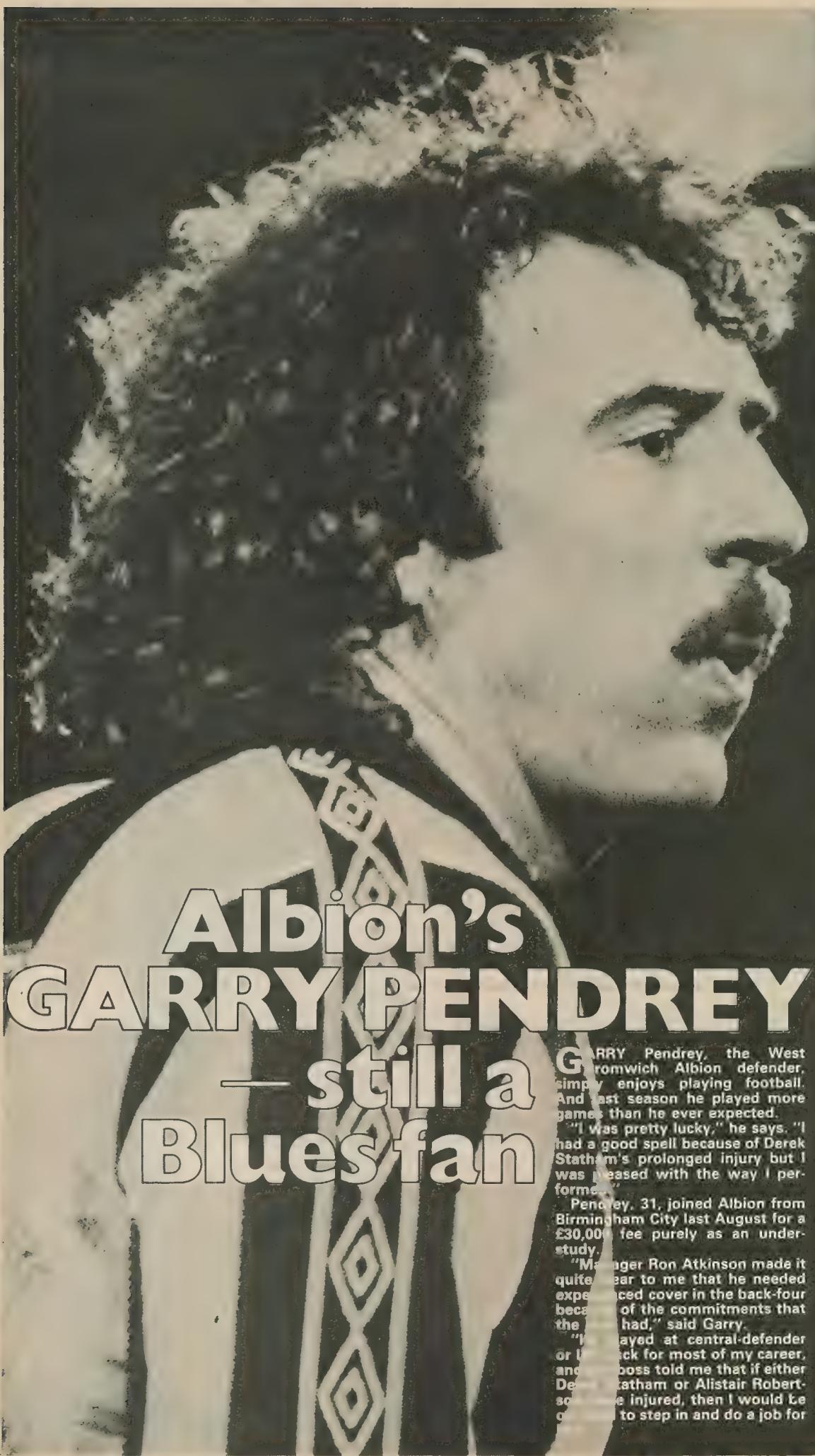
The present set-up almost encourages some teams to sit back and play for a draw — which isn't too difficult — and hope to sneak it on penalties. Come to think of it, NO Final should ever be decided in such a way, certainly not until a replay has been staged.

The Italian team must be feeling particularly sore after losing third place in the European Championship on the strength of a disputed spot-kick.

That's all for this week. Join me again in two weeks when I'll be picking my team of Great Scots!

Until then,





Albion's GARRY PENDREY — still a Blues fan

GARRY Pendrey, the West Bromwich Albion defender, simply enjoys playing football. And last season he played more games than he ever expected.

"I was pretty lucky," he says. "I had a good spell because of Derek Statham's prolonged injury but I was pleased with the way I performed."

Pendrey, 31, joined Albion from Birmingham City last August for a £30,000 fee purely as an understudy.

"Manager Ron Atkinson made it quite clear to me that he needed experienced cover in the back-four of the commitments that had," said Garry.

"I played at central-defender for most of my career, so I was told me that if either Statham or Alistair Robbie were injured, then I would be to step in and do a job for

"It's worked out fine for me and I've really enjoyed it. I was at Birmingham City for 15 years and it was a wrench to leave. I seemed destined to end my playing days at St. Andrews, but now I've left it's been great."

"Ron Atkinson gave me a two-year contract and, touch wood, I hope I'll stay for that time and enjoy it as much as I am at the moment."

"There were several reasons why I chose to come to The Hawthorns. To start with, Birmingham had just been relegated to the Second Division and Albion gave me a quick chance to join a top flight set-up again."

"Added to that, the club were in the U.E.F.A. Cup and Ron Atkinson told me that I would be a part of the squad to play in Europe. I'd never been involved in a European competition before, so that was an attraction. Another consideration was that I didn't have to move house. In fact, there were so many plus points I just had to make the decision and move."

"The only complication against leaving Blues was that I'd just had a testimonial game. Mind you, it had taken 15 years. It wasn't as though I'd had one after ten."

"The fans obviously thought I deserved the honour because they supported me very well. But to leave almost immediately afterwards took a great deal of thought."

"I didn't want people to think, 'Oh, he's taken the money and now he's off'."

'Respect'

"It wasn't like that at all. I took a lot of advice from those I know and respect. They said, 'No, people won't look on it like that because they know the sort of person you are.'

"I've had a great reaction from a lot of Birmingham City supporters — nice letters from people, so I'm quite happy."

Pendrey made his debut for Birmingham on March 9th, 1969, against Bolton Wanderers. "We beat them about 4-0," he recalls. "I played over 300 games at Birmingham. I enjoyed all my time with the club. I suppose the best moment came when we won promotion to the First Division in 1972. That year we reached the Semi-Final of the F.A. Cup. We played Leeds when they had that terrific team and they won easily."

"Before Birmingham went down the season before last people thought they struggled all the time they were in the First Division, but they didn't. Blues finished in tenth spot after the first campaign, and higher on a couple of occasions."

"If there is a lowlight in my career, then it was when City were relegated. It was the first time I'd ever tasted anything like that. We struggled, but we had before and always escaped."

"It's a despairing feeling. The crowd slip away and the players lose confidence."

"I'm just glad Birmingham did so well last season. They're a big city club and they've got exciting times coming sooner or later."

"I'm an Albion man now, but I've still got a great affection for Birmingham City. It's the first result I look for."

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND-UP

LINE-UPS RESULTS SCORERS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11

GROUP ONE

WEST GERMANY (0) 1 (Rummenigge)
 CZECHOSLOVAKIA (0) 0, Rome
 West Germany: Schumacher, Kaltz, Forster (K.H.), Cullmann, Dietz, Briegel, Stielike, Forster (B.), Muller, Schuster, Hrubesch, Rummenigge, Allofs. Sub: Magath.
 Czechoslovakia: Netolicka, Barmos, Jurkemik, Ondrus, Goegh, Stambacher, Panenka, Kozak, Vizek, Gajdusek, Nehoda. Sub: Masny.

GREECE (0) 0
 HOLLAND (0) 1 (Kist, pen), Naples
 Greece: Konstantinou, Kirastas, Kapsis, Firos, Iosifidis, Terzanidis, Livathinos, Kouis, Mavros, Ardigogli, Kostikos. Subs: Anastopoulos, Galakos.
 Holland: Schrijvers (Doesburg), Wijnstekers, Van Der Korput, Krol, Hovenkamp, Van Der Kerkhof (W), Haan, Stevens, Rep, Kist, Van Der Kerkhof (R). Subs: Nanninga, Thijssen.

THURSDAY, JUNE 12

GROUP TWO

ENGLAND (1) 1 (Wilkins)
 BELGIUM (1) 1 (Ceulemans), Turin
 England: Clemence, Neal, Watson, Thompson, Sansom, Coppel, Wilkins, Keegan, Brooking, Johnson, Woodcock. Subs: Kennedy, McDermott.
 Belgium: Pfaff, Gerets, Meeuws, Millecamp, Renquin, Van Moer, Vandereycken, Cools, Van der Elst, Vandenberg, Ceulemans. Sub: Mommens.

ITALY (0) 0
 SPAIN (0) 0, Milan
 Italy: Zoff, Gentile, Collovari, Scirea, Cabrini, Tardelli, Antognoni, Orioli, Causio, Graziani, Bettega. Sub: Benetti.
 Spain: Arconada, Tendillo, Miguelli, Alesanco, Gordillo, Zamora, Suarez, Asensi, Dani, Satrustegui, Quini. Sub: Juanito.

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

GROUP ONE

WEST GERMANY (1) 3 (Allofs 3)
 HOLLAND (0) 2 (Rep, pen, Van Der Kerkhof (W), Naples
 West Germany: Schumacher, Kaltz, Forster (K.H.), Dietz, Briegel, Stielike, Allofs, Muller, Schuster, Hrubesch, Rummenigge. Subs: Magath, Metthaus.
 Holland: Schrijvers, Wijnstekers, Van Der Korput, Krol, Hovenkamp, Van Der Kerkhof (W), Haan, Stevens, Rep, Kist, Van Der Kerkhof (R). Subs: Nanninga, Thijssen.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (2) 3 (Panenka, Vizek, Nehoda)
 GREECE (1) 1 (Anastopoulos), Rome
 Czechoslovakia: Seman, Barmos, Jurkemik, Ondrus, Goegh, Kozak, Panenka, Berger, Vizek, Masny, Nehoda. Subs: Licka, Gajdusek.
 Greece: Konstantinou, Kirastas, Kapsis, Firos, Iosifidis, Terzanidis, Livathinos, Kouis, Mavros, Anastopoulos, Galakos. Sub: Xanthopoulos.

SUNDAY, JUNE 15

GROUP TWO

SPAIN (1) 1 (Quini)
 BELGIUM (1) 2 (Gerets, Cools) Milan.
 Spain: Arconada, Tendillo, Miguelli, Alesanco, Gordillo, Zamora, Suarez, Asensi, Juanito, Quini, Satrustegui. Subs: Carrasco, Del Bosque.
 Belgium: Pfaff, Gerets, Millecamp, Meeuws, Renquin, Cools, Vandereycken, Van Moer, Van Der Elst, Vandenberg, Cuelmans. Subs: Mommens, Verheyen.

ITALY (0) 1 (Tardelli)
 ENGLAND (0) 0, Turin
 Italy: Zoff, Gentile, Collovari, Scirea, Orioli, Tardelli, Benetti, Antognoni, Causio, Graziani, Bettega. Sub: Benetti.
 England: Shilton, Neal, Watson, Thompson, Sansom, Coppel, Wilkins, Keegan, Kennedy, Birtles, Woodcock. Sub: Mariner.



West German captain Bernd Dietz receives the trophy after their 2-1 win.

TUESDAY, JUNE 17

GROUP ONE

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (1) 1 (Nehoda)
 HOLLAND (0) 1 (Kist), Milan
 Czechoslovakia: Netolicka, Barmos, Jurkemik, Ondrus, Goegh, Vojacek, Panenka, Kozak, Vizek, Masny, Nehoda. Subs: Stambacher, Licka.
 Holland: Schrijvers, Wijnstekers, Van Der Korput, Krol, Hovenkamp, Thijssen, Poortvliet, Van Der Kerkhof (W), Rep, Nanninga, Van Der Kerkhof (R). Subs: Haan, Kist.

WEST GERMANY (0) 0
 GREECE (0) 0, Turin
 West Germany: Schumacher, Kaltz, Forster (K.H.), Cullmann, Stielike, Briegel, Muller, Forster (B.), Hrubesch, Memering, Rummenigge. Subs: Del'Haye, Votava.
 Greece: Poupakis, Gounaris, Xanthopoulos, Rovousis, Nikolaou, Kouis, Nikoloudis, Ardigogli, Livathinos, Galakos, Mavros. Subs: Koudas, Kostikos.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18

GROUP TWO

ENGLAND (1) 2 (Brooking, Woodcock)
 SPAIN (0) 1 (Dani, pen), Naples
 England: Clemence, Anderson, Watson, Thompson, Mills, Hodde, McDermott, Wilkins, Brooking, Keegan, Woodcock. Subs: Mariner, Cherry.
 Spain: Arconada, Uria, Olmo, Alesanco, Gordillo, Zamora, Saura, Cardenosa, Juanito, Santillana, Cundi. Subs: Dani, Carrasco.

ITALY (0) 0

BELGIUM (0) 0, Rome

Italy: Zoff, Gentile, Orioli, Benetti, Collovari, Scirea, Causio, Tardelli, Graziani, Antogni, Bettega. Subs: Baresi, Altobelli.

Belgium: Pfaff, Gerets, Millecamp, Meeuws, Renquin, Cools, Vandereycken, Van Moer, Mommens, Van Der Elst, Ceulemans. Subs: Verheyen, Vandenberg.

FINAL TABLES

GROUP ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
W. Germany	3	2	1	0	4	2	5
Czechoslovakia	3	1	1	1	4	3	3
Holland	3	1	1	1	4	4	3
Greece	3	0	1	2	2	4	1

GROUP TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Belgium	3	1	2	0	3	2	4
Italy	3	1	2	0	1	0	4
England	3	1	1	1	3	3	3
Spain	3	0	1	2	2	4	1



SATURDAY, JUNE 21

THIRD-PLACE PLAY-OFF

ITALY (0) 1 (Graziani)
 CZECHOSLOVAKIA (1) 1 (Jurkemik), Naples
 Italy: Zoff, Gentile, Collovari, Scirea, Carbini, Baresi, Altobelli, Tardelli, Causio, Graziani, Bettega. Sub: Benetti.
 Czechoslovakia: Netolicka, Barmos, Vojacek, Ondrus, Goegh, Jerkemik, Kozak, Panenka, Masny, Nehoda, Vizek. Sub: Gajdusek.
 Czechoslovakia won 9-8 on penalties.

SUNDAY, JUNE 22

FINAL

BELGIUM (0) 1 (Vandereycken pen.)
 WEST GERMANY (1) 2 (Hrubesch 2)
 Belgium: Pfaff, Gerets, Millecamp, Meeuws, Renquin, Cools, Vandereycken, Van Moer, Mommens, Van Der Elst, Ceulemans.
 West Germany: Schumacher, Briegel, Forster (K.H.), Dietz, Schuster, Rummenigge, Hrubesch, Muller, Allofs, Stielike, Kaltz. Sub: Cullinan.

Horst Hrubesch heads West Germany's winning goal in the Final against Belgium.



Above: Ray Wilkins, voted England's best player, opened their account with this goal against Belgium. Below: The Belgian equaliser, scored by No. 11 Jan Cuelmans, sparked off a crowd riot.

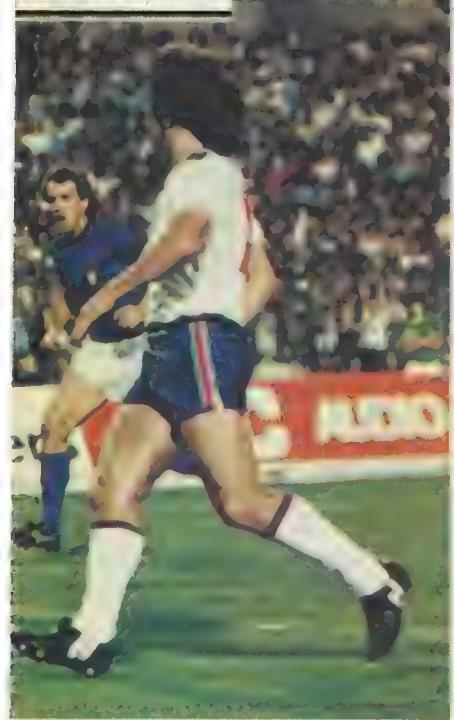


England's only defeat in Italy came in Turin against the host nation, when Marco Tardelli scored the game's solitary goal eight minutes from time.

NO MEDALS BUT NO DIS

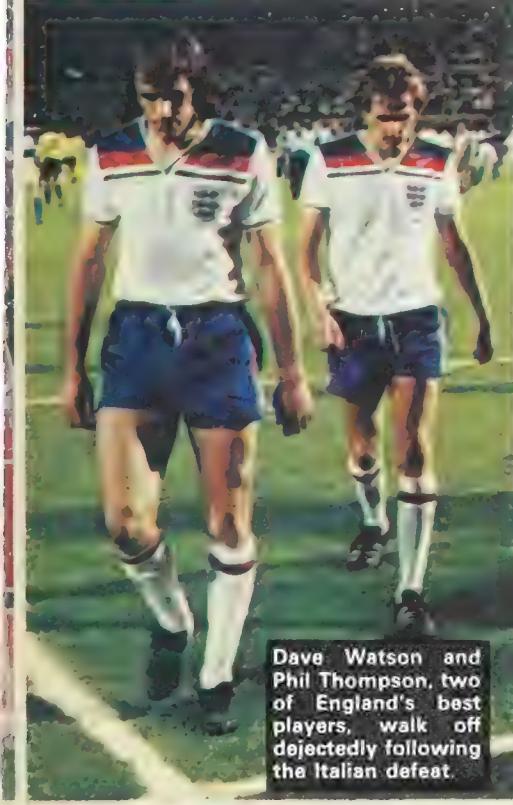


with high
European
with mixed
atches.



During their game against Italy, England's forwards had to suffer some rough treatment from the opposing defence. Here Tony Woodcock is fouled by Romeo Benetti.

GRACE



Dave Watson and Phil Thompson, two of England's best players, walk off dejectedly following the Italian defeat.



The tournament ended on a high note for England, with this Trevor Brooking goal setting up a 2-1 victory against Spain.

ENGLAND PROBE

What went wrong in Italy

RON GREENWOOD TOOK THE WRONG SQUAD

GUILTY. His most glaring omission was a winger. Greenwood claimed that he had a winger — Steve Coppell — but while Coppell can play wide, he is not a winger in the true sense, and anyway rarely got to the bye-line in Italy.

Greenwood also curiously claimed there are no such things as wingers these days, but however he cares to describe Peter Barnes or Laurie Cunningham, either should have been in the squad.

He had three similar strikers in David Johnson, Paul Mariner and Garry Birtles with, perhaps, a surplus of defenders. Barnes would have been a great asset, even as substitute.

THE ENGLAND MANAGER MADE WRONG TEAM SELECTIONS

GUILTY. It wasn't so much wrong selections as simply making too many changes. He used an incredible 20 players in just three games, which seems to indicate that even after three years he still didn't know his strongest team. Greenwood said that all 22 players were equal, except in a couple of positions.

Even if that were so (which I don't think it is) he should surely have had a settled team for his first major Finals. That he continued to alternate his goalkeepers was puzzling — England must be the only country in the world without a first-choice 'keeper. It was wrong to give Garry Birtles his first full game against Italy and the rest of Europe was happy to see Kevin Keegan playing deep, out of the danger zone. After all the build up, experimenting, and changes, we still don't have a settled team:

Greenwood likes to keep his players happy, but he must do this without playing most of them regularly.

Belgium's Jan Cuelmans equalises against England in Turin.

ENGLAND SIMPLY WEREN'T GOOD ENOUGH

GUILTY. They had some bad luck when Woodcock's perfectly good goal against Belgium was disallowed for offside and when Ray Kennedy's shot hit a post against Italy with the score 0-0. Yet the undeniable fact is that from the two matches which really mattered England scored one goal and gained one point.

The defence was generally sound, it was up-front where they fell down. Italy weren't a great team by any standards, but their defenders and midfielders consistently broke to supplement their attack. How often did England's defenders do this? England can claim that lady luck wasn't with them, but this must not hide the truth.

ENGLAND'S KEY PLAYERS DISAPPOINTED

GUILTY. Kevin Keegan never reached the standards he has set himself. Steve Coppell rarely beat his man and sent over a testing centre and Tony Woodcock couldn't get to grips with the man-for-man marking. The players who can look back with most satisfaction are the goalkeepers, Ray Wilkins and Kenny Sansom.



ENGLAND failed to finish in the first four of the European Championship in Italy, once again falling down when it really mattered. Why? What went wrong? Who was to blame? SHOOT's man in Italy, Chris Davies, puts England in the dock with seven accusations.

GREENWOOD IS NOT A WINNING MANAGER

VERDICT DEFERRED. This was the popular theory when he was in charge of West Ham. Despite a couple of Cup successes, West Ham were generally at the wrong end of the table playing attractive football.

Greenwood will have learnt a lot from the European Championship and judgment should be deferred until the 1982 World Cup.

ENGLAND ONLY REPRESENT THE STANDARD OF FOOTBALL IN THE LEAGUE

GUILTY. The standard has, generally speaking, dropped over the past ten years, despite England's domination of the European Cup. Liverpool and Forest both have players from other British countries, the First Division isn't what it used to be and there are fewer outstanding players around. Against that: three questions. Brian Clough keeps winning things with a side containing hardly any current internationals — why? Are some managers born winners and others destined to miss out on top honours?

And: why do West Germany continue to dominate European soccer when English clubs invariably beat their teams?



TEAM SPIRIT WAS POOR

NOT GUILTY. The spirit was always excellent, even after the team could no longer reach the Final. Greenwood works hard at keeping his players happy, especially the likes of Joe Corrigan. Maybe this is why he makes so many changes — he doesn't like to leave anyone out. There was no friction or bitterness. The day before the game against Spain the players pushed themselves to the limit in training and were eager to show they were good enough to finish third, which they couldn't.

VERDICT: ENGLAND ARE GUILTY

SENTENCE: A CHANGE IN PERSONNEL AND APPROACH

Greenwood must find a settled side, as opposed to a settled squad. He must be strong enough to choose between Ray Clemence or Peter Shilton. The England manager must insist on more penetration from deep position. He must also look at the age of certain players and ensure there are ready-made replacements. The side which played against Belgium, which most accept as being the first-choice team, will not improve. Greenwood should build his side around key men such as Thompson, Wilkins and Keegan. Don Revie failed mainly because he didn't have a settled side in three years. The warning signs are there for Greenwood.

The Great 'Gong' Mystery

WHEN Norwich City goalkeeper Kevin Keelan was awarded the M.B.E. in the latest Royal Honours list, everybody in soccer must have shared his pleasure over a distinction which has been richly merited by his notable service to the game for 20 years.

Yet thousands of football fans must have wondered just who and what decide who should receive these decorations. Kevin himself, along with countless others, prob-

ably reflected that there must be any number of current players who can be viewed as being equally deserving of recognition.

Certainly there is a danger of preferential treatment, no matter how accidental, being handed out to certain players at the expense of others equally deserving.

It is no new situation. Of the 11 players who made undying history by winning the World Cup for England in July, 1966, Gordon Banks,

Jack and Bobby Charlton, Bobby Moore, Geoff Hurst, and Martin Peters have all received either an O.B.E., M.B.E., or C.B.E.

But there has never been any such awards for any of the other five: George Cohen, Ray Wilson, Nobby Stiles, Roger Hunt, or Alan Ball. Why not? If there had to be a "gong" for one why not for all in what was so essentially a team triumph?

Any such distinction for any Football League professional was unheard of at one time, but it is a sign of the times that more and more players have been decorated since Arsenal manager Tom Whittaker became the first when he was handed the M.B.E. in 1946.

Impressive

There was not another until 1957, but since then there has been an impressive and striking succession of honours for past and present League players.

There have actually been knight-hoods for Stanley Matthews, Matt Busby, Alf Ramsey, and Walter Winterbottom, while Kevin Keelan becomes the 16th to collect an M.B.E. In addition, the O.B.E. has gone to 15 players and the C.B.E. to seven more.

Nevertheless, it would be nice to see some deserving cases who have never enjoyed the publicity gaining some sort of recognition.

Chelsea boss Geoff Hurst with jazz singer Cleo Laine at Buckingham Palace.



Kevin Keelan,
M.B.E.

FOOTBALL FUNNIES



This week Coventry City's talented young striker Garry Thompson selects the jokes specially drawn by our cartoonist Styx.



"And I spend the whole season teaching him to shoot with his feet."



"A quiet word with you about your dangerous kicking."



"Here's the new midfield player I've just signed on, skipper."



"But last week you said wild horses wouldn't drag you to watch that lot again."



"I'd like you to consult your linesman, ref, before you book that man."

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS TO Ask the Expert

SHOOT!, IPC Magazines Ltd.,
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Stamford Street, London, SE1 9LS.

17-0 win

Is it true that England once beat Australia 17-0?

JOE PHELAN,
EIRE

• Sure is, Joe — but, though given in some reference books as the world record international win, the Football Association don't officially recognise it as such.

For, despite including some quite prominent players, technically the title of that "England" team was F.A. XI.

That goal-feast took place in Sydney on 30th June, 1951.

Since those days, of course, Aussie soccer has come on tremendously — and it's highly unlikely that England, or any other country, could rattle up such a mammoth score against the "Socceroos" nowadays.

Player in specs

Has a player wearing glasses ever played in the English First Division?

NOEL FRANCIS,
AUSTRALIA

• Never seen one myself, Noel — although there are some short-sighted lads who "cheat" with contact lenses. In fact, in comparatively modern times, the only bespectacled player I've heard of was a chap named John Mitchell — and he was a goalkeeper, at that.

Not a bad one, either, by all accounts, for he was good enough to play in the 1922 F.A. Cup Final for Preston against Huddersfield.

He didn't get a winners' medal, but the only goal he let in — in fact, the only goal of the game — was a penalty.

Goalscoring

'keepers

Which goalkeeper has scored the most Football League goals in one season?

PETER NICHOLS,
WORCESTER

• Well, Peter, a couple of current top keepers in Peter Shilton and Pat Jennings have each actually scored in a first-class match from a clearance — but, obviously, such a goal normally has to come by way of a penalty.

Alex Stepney scored a couple this way for Manchester United in the 1973-74 season — but the season's record is held by Arnold Birch.

He scored five times from the spot in Third Division (North) games for Chesterfield in 1923-24.

Birthday win

I was born on 9th September, 1967 — and would like to know how my favourite team, Liverpool, got on that day?

KENNETH WALLER,
COLCHESTER

• I'm sure, as a Liverpool fan, you won't be surprised to hear that your lads won, Kenneth — 3-1, it was, at home to Chelsea.

But they didn't take the title — finishing third behind the two Manchester clubs.

Home wins

What is the record number of home Football League wins in a single season?

SIMON GOLESWORTHY,
HORSHAM

• You can't better Brentford on that one, Simon.

In the 1929-30 season, in the old Division Three (South), they won every one of their 21 home games.

But it still wasn't good enough to gain promotion. Only one club went up in those days, and Plymouth pushed Brentford into second place by a margin of seven points.

SHORT PASSES

• Manchester City have never played in the Football League lower than the Second Division.

(PAUL FUNDIN, Sweden)

• After 56 League games (27 goals) for Celtic, Lou Macari was transferred to Manchester United for £200,000 in January, 1973.

(JANET HOLLINSHEAD,
Shropshire)

• Johnny Giles played 381 League games (86 goals) for Leeds.

(JAMES BROOKS, Eire)

• Brian Kidd played for both Manchester clubs, Arsenal and Everton before his latest move to Bolton.

(MANJIT HEER, Coventry)

• Wrexham goalkeeper Dai Davies played 83 League games for Everton.

(GUTO DAVIES, Cardiff)

• Laurie Cunningham scored 15 goals in 75 League games for Orient, and 20 in 86 for West Bromwich before being transferred to Real Madrid in June, 1979.

(ANDERS NILSSON, Sweden)

• In the World Cup Finals in Sweden in 1958, Northern Ireland beat Czechoslovakia 1-0, lost 1-3 to Argentina, drew 2-2 with West Germany, beat the Czechs again 2-1, and lost 0-4 to France.

(JEREMY GRAY, Co. Antrim)

• England's team beaten 2-0 by Holland at Wembley on 9th February, 1977, was Clarence, Clement, Beattie, Doyle, Watson, Madeley, Keegan, Greenhoff (B), Francis (T), Bowles, Brooking, Pearson and Todd came on as subs.

(FRITZ FEDDEMA, Holland)

United Kingdom readers receive £2 for every letter published.

Overseas readers win a special SHOOT! T-shirt instead of money. When writing, readers should state their size: small, medium or large.

SHOOT! editor Peter Stewart looks on as Gordon tries his hand as a lay-out artist on his own column.



MY SOCCER
WORLD
**Gordon
McQueen**

from Bourne, Lincolnshire, asks if I can recall the worst moments of 1979-80.

Easy, Mike, missing nine League games through injury. That was a real blow.

My own worst performance of the season was in United's 2-1 win against Liverpool at Old Trafford!!

One incident in particular still haunts me. A long through ball was struck by Terry McDermott, the sort of pass I have no difficulty in dealing with.

John Martin from Withenshaw, near Manchester, wants to know my personal highlight of last season.

Scoring nine League goals for United and ending joint second with Lou Macari behind Joe Jordan who scored 13. Next season I want to mount an even stiffer challenge in the goal stakes.

The goal that gave me most pleasure was against Coventry at Highfield Road on December 15th, 1979. It was my comeback game after being out for several weeks with a hamstring injury.

Young Kevin Moran had come into the side in my place and played so well many people doubted I'd get back. But I did — and scored in United's 2-1 win.

Off the park the highlight of this and any season so far was the birth of my daughter Hayley.

Now in contrast Mike Healy,

Easy goal

This time, though, I slid in and missed the ball completely allowing Kenny Dalglish to swoop and score an easy goal.

Another terrifying moment happened off the park, when I was involved in a nasty car crash near my home in Lymm, Cheshire.

I was about to turn right and was stationary at the time when a lorry smashed into my rear. My car, a Datsun Z60S Two plus Two, the same model Kevin Keegan had at Liverpool, was almost written off. Thank goodness I was wearing my seat belt. I dread to think what would have happened if I didn't.

Many readers expressed disappointment at United's failure to win the title from Liverpool. Questions such as . . . what is missing from the

team that would make them Champions? Which areas do they need strengthening in? What do they need to make them a great team?

Next season United will be searching for more consistency, especially away from home. We only dropped five points at Old Trafford . . . if only we could have maintained that form on opponents' grounds.

Why did we drop so many points away? Because manager Dave Sexton refused to abandon our cavalier approach, a style which excites fans but does tend to leave us exposed and under pressure at times. We must learn to soak up that pressure as Liverpool do.

All teams need strengthening in

certain areas even Liverpool, but it would take really exceptional players to do that.

The same applies to United. I'm sure there are certain players Dave Sexton would love to have at United, but they are simply not available.

"Sammy McIlroy has described Ray Wilkins as a second Johnny Giles," writes Shaun Ryan from Dublin. "What's your view?"

Ray, one of England's successes in the European Championship, has the potential to be as good if not better than the former United and Eire midfielder.

We haven't seen the best of Ray at United. It takes a while for players to settle down after a transfer, especially at a club like ours where

so much is expected from a big signing.

But I know Ray's happy at Old Trafford and Dave Sexton is delighted to have a player of his class in the side.

Denis Jones from Stoke-on-Trent, wants to know about Andy Ritchie.

"Although he appears to score a hat-trick every time he plays for United, Andy can't command a regular place," writes Denis. "It seems to me he has no future at Old Trafford. Surely Dave Sexton should have brought him in when you were going through that lean spell last season."

Andy rejected a move to Aston Villa last season because he is determined to stake his claim at United. He certainly has a big future at the club. He's a fantastic finisher with the same class and style as my old Leeds team-mate Allan Clarke.

The boss was right not to bring Andy into a struggling side. The fans could have expected too much from

him. One or two indifferent displays would have shaken his confidence.

Apart from that we had a little fellow called Lou Macari who had a tremendous season. He kept Andy out of the side. And when Andy might have been given an extended run at the end of the season Jimmy Greenhoff made that sensational recovery from injury and regained his place in the side.

Andy could make the breakthrough next season . . . if he does he'll guarantee United at last 20 goals.

Argument

Sian Lewis from Ebbw Vale in Gwent wants me to settle an argument.

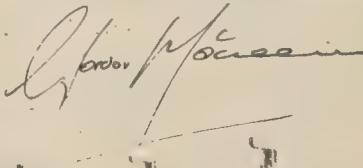
She recently bought United's record 'Onward Sexton Soldiers' and on the track 'Green, Green Grass of Home' a player sings a solo. Sian's friend reckons it's Martin Buchan . . . she's sure it's Lou Macari.

It's Martin Buchan, Sian. He's the only one in the team with anything like a voice.

Martin is not only a fine singer but a good guitar player and off the pitch entertains the lads on away trips.

Must close now . . . I'll answer some more of your letters next time.

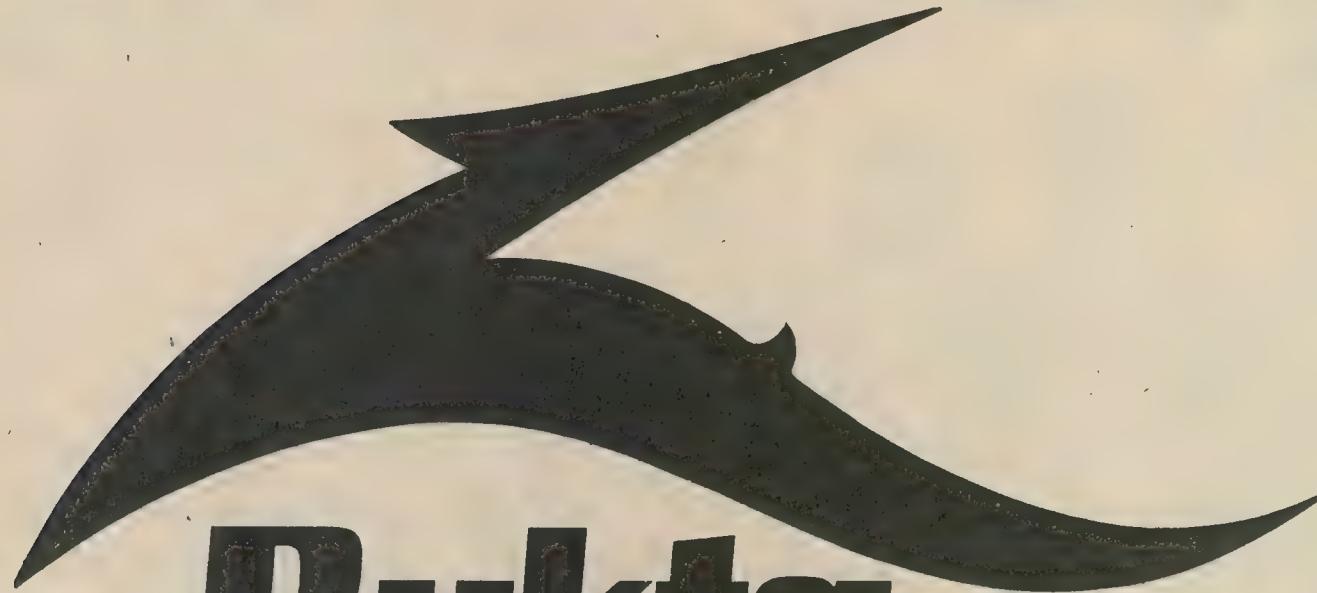
Until then have a good holiday



The United team with comedian George Roper at the launching of the new club record 'Onward Sexton's Soldiers'.



It's turned more defenders than Kevin Keegan



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Patching's Promise to Watford.

MARTIN Patching is a player bursting with Yorkshire pride. "It's always been my motivation," says the 21-year-old Rotherham born midfielder, who joined Watford from Wolves in a £125,000 deal last December.

"I changed clubs simply because I wanted first team football and, as it's turned out, it's the best move I've ever made.

"Fair enough, Wolves have had a successful season winning the League Cup, and good luck to them. But I feel sure in my own heart that I would have been sitting in the stand watching the Wembley triumph. I'd still have been out in the cold at Molineux."

Patching's days at Wolves really ended with the arrival of Dave Thomas, the left-winger from Everton a year ago.

"I started last season wearing the number 11 shirt," he says. "When Dave arrived I found myself out of the team. The manager, John Barnwell, told me I could either drop back on the the subs' bench, or I could play in my natural midfield position in the reserves.

'Interested'

"He also added that a couple of clubs were interested in me and, if they made offers, Wolves would consider letting me go."

Watford came in and I met the manager, Graham Taylor and signed. I thought, if he's prepared to fork out £125,000, then he must think I've got something to offer.

"I'd made close on 100 appearances for Wolves and being in the reserves wasn't doing my game any good at all. I was just going through the motions."

"Graham Taylor bought me as a replacement for Dennis Booth, who had been sold to Hull City for £40,000. He was playing at number four and that's my position at Watford, right in the centre of the midfield."

"The boss likes me to get forward into the box and that suits me fine. At Wolves I was stuck out on the left-wing, which was alien to my style of play."

Patching, a former England Schoolboy and Youth international, made a happy return to Molineux in the Fifth Round of the F.A. Cup.

"I led the team

Patching (light strip) helped beat his old club Wolves in the F.A. Cup.



YOU ARE THE REF

Compiled by CLIVE THOMAS

1

After a match a player asks you for the ball to give to a colleague who has scored a hat-trick. Should you oblige?



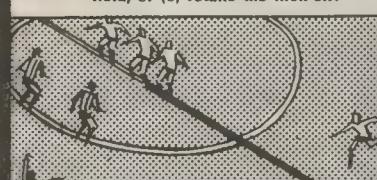
2

Two opposing players are arguing as they walk on to the field to start a match. One strikes the other. Although the game has not started can you send off the offender?



3

At the kick-off the ball is played along the halfway line and over the touch-line before it is touched by another player. Should you award: (a) a throw-in to the opposing team, (b) drop the ball in the middle of the field, or (c) retake the kick-off?



4

Following a corner, the ball is kicked into goal by an attacker with a teammate standing on the goal-line level with two opponents. Should you award: (a) a goal or (b) a free-kick for offside?



5

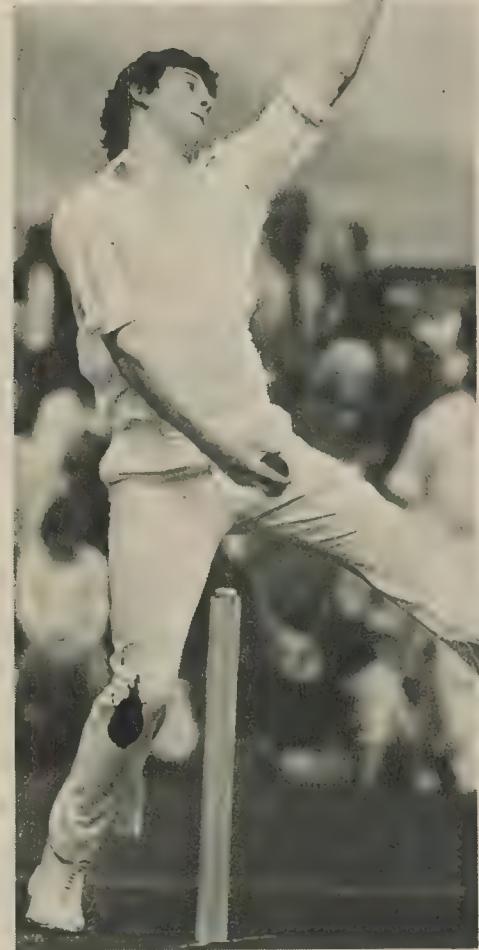
The ball is accidentally trapped between the knees of a player who has fallen to the ground. An opponent tries to kick the ball. Should you (a) wave play on, (b) award an indirect free-kick, or (c) a direct free-kick?



ANSWERS

1. No. I refereed the Tottenham v Coventry match at White Hart Lane last season and was waiting to go through the tunnel when I was asked by a Tottenham player to score three goals. I was not permitted to do this, I turned to my dressing room, but when I got to my room an official of Tottenham asked for the ball to give to Glenmore who had scored three goals. I was given to Glenmore 2. Yes. 3. Retake the kick-off (c). 4. A free-kick for offside (b). 5. Indirect free-kick (b).

All-rounder Ramage



Alan Ramage, Yorkshire bowler and Middlesbrough centre-half.

ALAN Ramage has the sort of sporting life most youngsters dream about.

In the winter, the well-built 22-year-old is at the centre of Middlesbrough's defence in the First Division.

Then, when the summer months arrive, he's one of the best bowlers spearheading the Yorkshire attack in county and one-day matches.

It's a great life, but a hectic one bringing plenty of pressures and problems to the tall sports all-rounder.

The biggest headache is doing justice to both clubs and, at the moment, it's football that comes first. Ramage didn't join Yorkshire until the football season finished — and he'll have to quit cricket before the end of the season to rejoin Boro for training this month.

One day, he may have to decide between the two sports, particularly if he is to make an impact at a higher level in cricket.

"I want to put that day off as long as possible because I love my lifestyle now," says Ramage.

"With the football season getting longer and longer, it's very difficult fitting them both in, but Middlesbrough are very helpful."

"Manager John Neal could have insisted I went with the team in May to a tournament in Japan, but he allowed me to rejoin Yorkshire.

"It would have been nice to go to Japan with the rest of the lads, but it wasn't a difficult decision for me in the end — I love my cricket too much."

"But I realise I won't be with the cricketers at the end of their season. I'll be reporting back to Ayresome Park and that's something I'm looking forward to after the way I finished last season."

"I was in the first team regularly at centre-

half and thought I did well. Now, I hope to build on that next season and hopefully help Boro win a major trophy."

But there is no doubt that Yorkshire will do their best during the summer to try and persuade the powerfully-built paceman to devote himself full-time to cricket.

Geoff Boycott and Ray Illingworth are just two famous names who believe that Ramage could have a big future in the game if he gave it 100 per cent over the next few years.

It's a belief based on his form last summer when his victims in a four-week period included Gordon Greenidge, David Steele, Geoff Miller and John Wright — all current or past Test players.

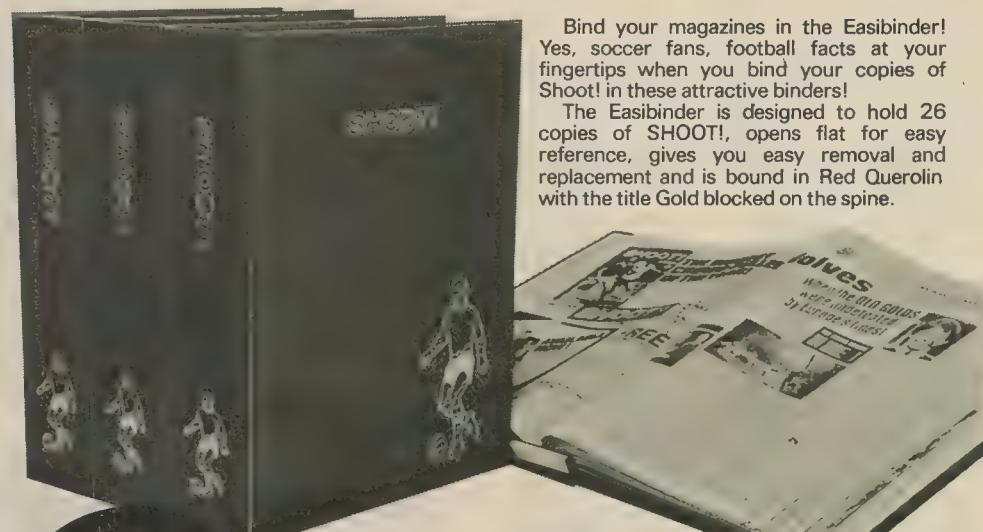
Decision

Eventually, decision day will come for Ramage but, in the meantime, he remains one of the dwindling band of sportsmen who play both football and cricket at the top level.

Others include his Yorkshire team-mate Arnie Sidebottom who is on York's books, highly-rated Worcestershire batsman Phil Neale who plays for Lincoln City in the winter and England captain Ian Botham at Scunthorpe. In the more recent past, there have been men like Jim Cumbes and Chris Balderstone.

All are among the best in the country at both sports. Yet it now seems certain that the demands of international football and Test cricket make it inevitable that we will never again see anyone capped in both of them.

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CLUB SPOTLIGHT

THOSE who believe that managers work miracles can add the name of Eoin Hand to their list.

Prior to his arrival last August, Limerick were not making any progress. Only once in their 43-year history had they won the Championship. True, they did have a few good Cup runs and they won the FAI Cup back in 1971. But the arrival of Hand and the addition of the 'United' tag to their name changed all that.

Using exactly the same squad he found on his arrival, Hand led by example and his presence on the pitch spurred the local part-timers on to great things. They led the League table for most of the season and only lost out in their bid for the 'double' in a Cup Semi-Final replay against Waterford.

The 34-year-old Dubliner in his first season in charge, has given soccer a boost in this rugby mad city. And the good news for United is that Hand will be staying with them next season combining that job with that of part-time manager of the Republic international side.

Compiled
by
Sean
Creedon

League of Ireland Champions **LIMERICK UNITED**

PEN PICTURES

(League appearances and League goals for 1979-80 season)

KEVIN FITZPATRICK: Goalkeeper.

The veteran of the side. Kevin made his debut for the club at 16 and has now played over 700 games for his hometown club. One international and inter-League cap, this is his testimonial year. Age 37. Occ: Sales Rep. Lge Apps: 30. PAT NOLAN: Right-back.

Although one of the best full-backs in the country, Pat played in midfield for most of the season. Capped at Youth, Under 21 and Inter-League level. A member of the Soccer Writers' Team of the Year, Pat got married during the season.

Age 23. Occ: Sales Rep. Lge Apps: 28. Goals: 1.

JOE O'MAHONY: Central-defender.

Another long-server, Joe (right) is now captain of the local club. A regular in League of Ireland selections up to a few years back, he was a member of Limerick's Cup-winning side in 1971.

Age 30. Occ: Draughtsman. Lge Apps: 30.

BRENDAN STORAN: Central-defender. One of the most improved players in the League of Ireland last season. Brendan, who was voted Player of the



Month in November, attracted the attention of several English scouts. A former junior international, he played for the League of Ireland on their recent tour of Argentina.

Age 22. Occ: Fitter. Lge Apps: 23. Goals: 1.

MICK RYAN: Left-back.

Back with the club after a brief spell with Cork Celtic, Mick is a utility player and was used in various positions last season. Age 22. Occ: Taxi Driver. Lge Apps: 26 and 2 sub.

TONY FITZGERALD: Defender.

A former Inter-County Gaelic footballer, Tony played at left-back for 14 consecutive games last season and was then dropped. A long server with the club. Age 28. Occ: Panel Beater. Lge Apps: 15.

TONY MEANEY: Midfielder.

Joined the club from local juniors Ballynally Rovers, Tony is the club's penalty-kick expert. In fact all his goals last season came from penalties. His second-half penalty in the last game of the season against Athlone Town clinched the title and saved Limerick from a play-off.

Age 30. Occ: Sales Rep. Lge Apps: 18 and 1 sub. Goals: 5.

EOIN HAND: Midfielder.

Started his career in his native Dublin with the now defunct Drumcondra. Moved to Portsmouth in 1968 and had brief spells with Arcadia in South Africa and Shamrock Rovers before returning to Fratton Park. 19 international caps. Age 34. Occ: Pro. Lge Apps: 28. Goals: 12.

JOHNNY WALSH: Midfielder.

THE MEN IN CHARGE

Manager: Eoin Hand (right). Assistant-manager: Dave Maheedy. President: Michael Lipper. Chairman: Michael Webb. Secretary: John O'Dwyer. Treasurer: Tom Quigley. League Delegate: John McNamara.

Founded: 1937 Joined League of Ireland same year. Home Ground: Market's Field. Colours: All Blue or All White. Nickname: Shannonsiders. Record Win: 7-0 v UCD (1979-80). Record Attendance: 7,500 v Dundalk (1979-80). Most League Points in a Season: 47 (1979-80). Most League Goals in a Season: 67 (1979-80). Top League Scorer in a Season: Tony Morris 19 (1979-80). Most Capped Player: Al Finucane 11 Eire Caps.



1979-80 Campaign:

League — Champion. FAI Cup — Semi-Final. League Cup — First Round. Tyler All-Ireland Cup — First Round.

HONOURS

League: 1959-60, 1979-80. FAI Cup: 1971. League Cup: 1975-76.

EUROPEAN RECORD

1960 — Champions Cup — Lost to Berne Young Boys on 9-2 agg. 1965 — Cup-Winners' Cup — lost to CSKA Sofia on 5-1 agg. 1971 — Cup-Winners' Cup — lost to Torino on 5-0 agg.

Another player who attracted the scouts during the season. Johnny was an ever-present in Limerick's Championship-winning side and scored on his Inter-League debut against the Scottish League. Selected for the Soccer Writers' Team of the Year.

Age 25. Occ: Auto Electrician. Lge Apps: 16 and 10 sub. Goals: 4.

GER DUGGAN: Striker.

Another local in the side, Ger signed from juniors Fairview Rangers. The club's most consistent scorer.

Age 26. Occ: Factory Employee. Lge Apps: 26 and 1 sub. Goals: 6.

JOHN DELAMERE: Striker.

The top scorer in Eire in 1978-79, John moved South from Shelbourne during the season, but he didn't command a regular place.

Age 22. Occ: Pro. Lge Apps: 7 and 2 sub. Goals: 3.

GARY HULMES: Striker.

Born in Manchester, Gary moved from Rochdale to Sligo Rovers in 1976 and won a League medal with the West of Ireland club. Joined Limerick towards the end of last season.

Age 24. Occ: Pro. Lge Apps: 3 and 1 sub. Goals: 4.



HOW THEY WON THE LEAGUE.

Sept 9 v UCD	H 2-0	Morris, Doyle o.g.
16 v Sligo Rovers	A 3-2	Hand, Morris, Walsh
23 v Cork United	H 4-1	Hand 4
Oct 7 v Bohemians	H 1-0	Hand
14 v Thurles Town	A 3-3	Morris 3
21 v Galway Rovers	H 1-0	Hand
28 v Shelbourne	A 4-1	Walsh, Hand (pen), Kennedy, Higgins
Nov 4 v Finn Harps	H 1-0	Morris
11 v St Pat's Ath	A 1-2	Walsh
18 v Dundalk	H 2-0	Walsh, Hand
25 v Shamrock Rov	A 2-1	Storan, Nolan
Dec 2 v Waterford	H 1-1	Morris
9 v Athlone Town	H 0-0	
16 v Home Farm	A 1-0	Kennedy
23 v UCD	A 7-0	Morris 4, Duggan, Walsh, Doyle o.g.

27 v Drogheda Utd	A 4-1	Meaney 2 (2 pens), Morris, Duggan
30 v Sligo Rovers	H 3-1	Meaney 2 (2 pens), Morris
Jan 6 v Cork United	A 1-1	Duggan
13 v Drogheda Utd	H 1-1	Matthews
20 v Bohemians	A 0-1	
27 v Thurles Town	H 5-0	Morris 2, Walsh, Delamere, Hand
Feb 3 v Galway Rovers	A 2-0	Duggan, Walsh
17 v Shelbourne	H 4-0	Morris 2, Delamere, Duggan
24 v Finn Harps	A 3-2	Duggan, Kennedy, Hand
Mar 2 v St Pat's Ath	H 0-0	
18 v Dundalk	A 0-1	
23 v Shamrock Rov	H 2-1	Walsh, Morris
30 v Waterford	A 4-3	Hulmes 2, Delamere, Hand
Apr 13 v Home Farm	H 4-0	Hulmes 2, Walsh, Kennedy
20 v Athlone Town	A 1-1	Meaney (pen).

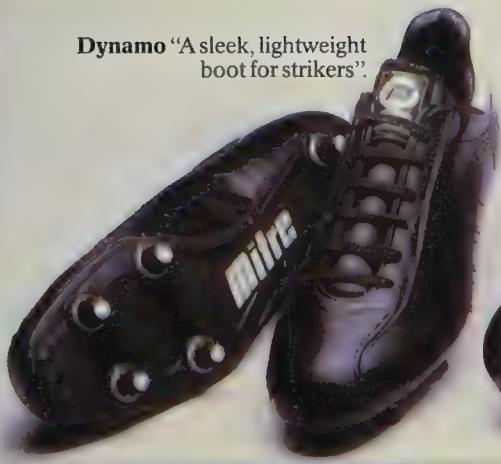
WIMMERICK UNITED!



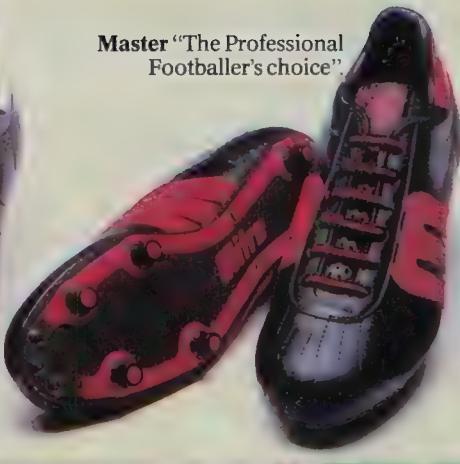
BACK ROW (left to right): Pat Nolan, Des Kennedy, Eoin Hand, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Brendan Storan, John Delamere, Tony Meánnay.

FRONT ROW: Dave Maheedy (coach), Ger Duggan, Joe O'Mahony, Mick Ryan, Gary Holmes, Tony Morris, Johnny Walsh. Mascot: Kari Spain.

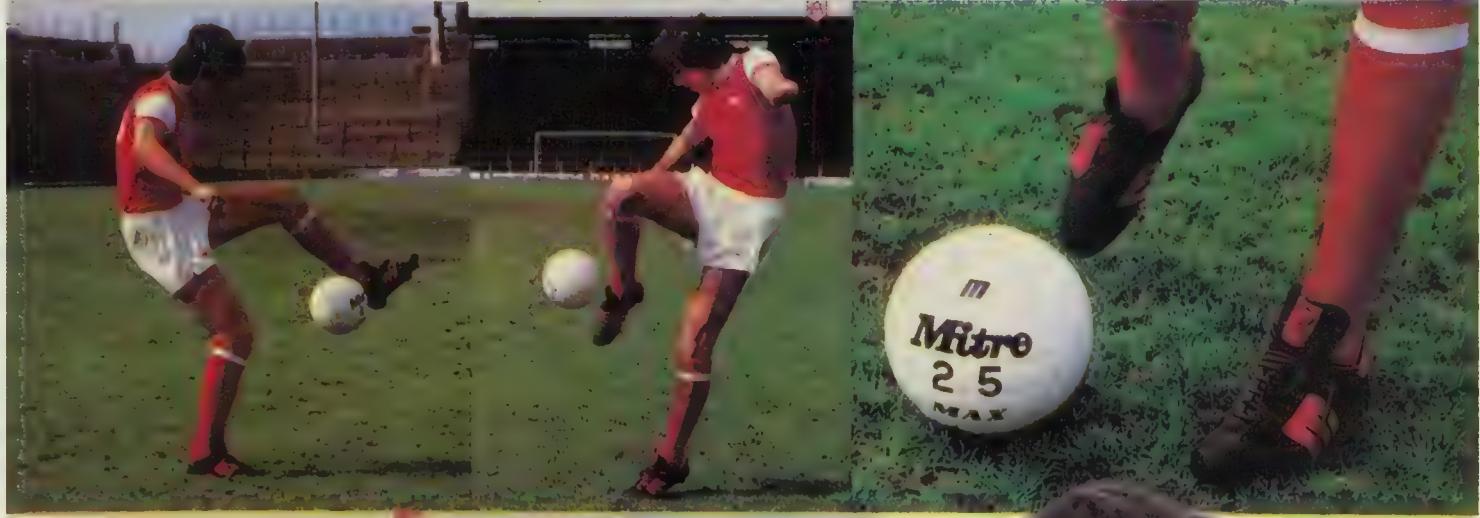
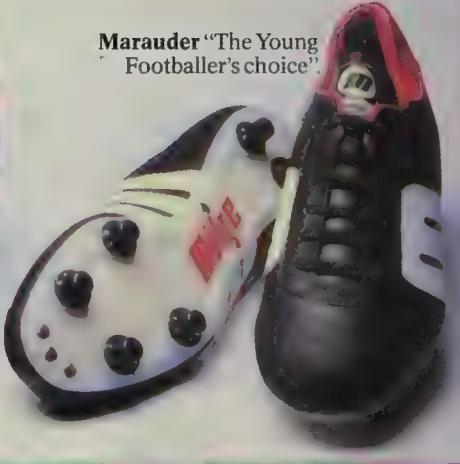
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IS GERMAN FOOTBALL THE BEST?



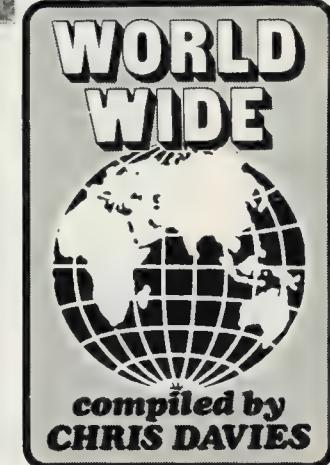
Platini gets the vote

PROFESSIONAL footballers in France have voted Michel Platini their Player of the Year in a survey involving 330 professionals. Platini polled 80 votes more than last year's winner Henri Michel, and these two were streets ahead of the rest of the field. For the record, here are the top ten French players, according to the players themselves:

	votes
1 Michel Platini (St Etienne)	414
2 Henri Michel (Nantes)	334
3 Maxime Bossis (Nantes)	182
4 Loic Amisse (Nantes)	143
5 Didier Christophe (Monaco)	104
6 Yanick Stopyra (Sochaux)	88
7 Patrick Revelli (Sochaux)	79
8 "Zimako" (St Etienne)	79
9 Djaadaoui (Sochaux)	66
10 Philippe Bergeron (Lille)	61

Alves returns – again

PORUGUESE midfielder João Alves (renowned for insisting on playing in black gloves) is back in his native country with Benfica following a £200,000 deal with Paris St Germain. Alves has twice returned to Portugal after 'adventures' abroad – first from Spanish club Salamanca, and he's now left France because of: "homesickness and a fervent desire to return to my native country."



BARCELONA have agreed to allow top Spanish referee Emilio Guruceta to officiate at their matches this season.

It may seem a strange piece of news, but Barcelona have barred Guruceta ever since he mistakenly awarded a penalty to Real Madrid in a Cup confrontation in the Nou Camp.

The incident took place in 1968, and 'Guruceta' has been a dirty word in Barcelona for the last 12 years!

Oscar goes back

BRAZILIAN centre-back Oscar, signed by the Cosmos earlier this year, has been sold to São Paulo FC. It is said that the fans of his former Brazilian club, Ponte Preta, would have rioted had he been transferred directly, so the three-way deal was 'arranged'.

THREE of the greatest players of modern times were brought together by West German magazine *Kicker* to discuss the question: 'Why is German football so good?'

Of the 128 clubs who set out on the Euro-trail last September, five Bundesliga teams reached the Semi-Finals. Eintracht Frankfurt and Borussia Mönchengladbach won through to the Final of the UEFA Cup, while Hamburger SV played Forest in the European Cup Final.

Yet Bobby Moore wasn't over-impressed. 'Is German soccer really so good? Hamburg didn't beat Forest.'

'In the Cup-Winners' Cup, Fortuna Düsseldorf met an early end. These two Cups are the only important ones. In my opinion, the UEFA Cup comes a poor third.'

'The fact that the last four in the UEFA Cup were German doesn't prove anything about the quality of German football. The whole world knows that football 'made in Germany' is very good. I don't want to belittle their achievements, but European competitions can't be compared with the Bundesliga.'

'Luck plays a big part in Cup soccer. If you'll allow me to look back over the past four seasons, you'll see that the European Cup –

the most important one – has been solely English property. Nobody in England started claiming 'English football is the best'.'

Uwe Seeler, who played against Bobby quite a few times for West Germany, disagrees.

'I can't go along with the UEFA Cup being third-class. All three competitions are basically the same.'

'Okay, so Germany had more clubs in the UEFA Cup than anyone else, because Mönchengladbach qualified as holders. England and Italy also had four qualifiers.'

'German football is beginning to reach the same high standard we achieved in the early 70's.'

The great Alfredo di Stefano says: 'I'm not surprised that Bundesliga clubs have done so well. Their coaches deserve credit.'

'Faster'

'The Germans are brave, get stuck in and never shirk a tackle. More important, they are much faster than the opposition and speed is an ace card.'

'All the players are constantly moving and the football just seems to flow.'

I wrote a few months ago that the success of Bundesliga clubs in Europe can give the Germans the right to say their League is the strongest in depth in Europe.

The success of their national team surely gives the Germans the right to claim their football is the best – whatever Liverpool and Forest have achieved.'

'KEMPES GOT ME SACKED'

ALFREDO di Stefano has finally admitted that Mario Kempes was partly to blame for his abrupt dismissal from Valencia, shortly after the Spanish club had won the Cup-Winners' Cup.

'I wanted Mario to play a bit more in away matches,' says di Stefano.

'You see one Kempes at home and a different one away. I talked to him about this a lot. I also asked him to take it easy on tobacco and alcohol.'

'He never said anything directly to me that he was unhappy with the way I ran the side, and if it's true that he ran to the club president to tell tales, I think that's unforgiveable – all the more so as we're both Argentinian.'



Where did the fistful of dollars go?

CHILEAN international Eduardo Bonvallet has been having mixed fortunes in the USA since he joined Fort Lauderdale Strikers at the beginning of the year.

On the field, he's successfully won over the fans (they have trouble pronouncing Bonvallet so they call him Bionic Man instead), but he's run into a strange situation that threatens to rip the club apart.

The Strikers paid a total of 60,000 dollars for Bonvallet, of which his old club, O'Higgins, received 15,000. The intermediary who arranged the deal also received 15,000. But Bonvallet claims he never received his share – the remaining 30,000 dollars.

Investigations revealed that the money was paid to assistant-manager Rudy Arkenbout, a Dutchman recently fired by the Strikers after financial disagreements.

Strikers' manager Cor van der Hart (also Dutch) is indignant about his fellow countryman being accused of stealing the cash, and refuses to select the now transfer-listed Bonvallet for the team.

News flashes

● After several attempts to sign foreign managers, and just as many changes of mind, the Peruvian authorities have finally decided to appoint two men to manage the national team through their World Cup qualifiers. The tandem is formed by Peruvian First Division managers Juan José Tan and Luis Zácaras.



● Peruvian club Deportivo La Palma has imposed a life ban on three of its players. The trio are accused of "leading a totally dissolute life which keeps them out until the early hours of the morning".



● Eusebio (above) will be back with Benfica next season. The Black Panther will work with schoolchildren and scout for new players.

● The Brazilian F.A. has introduced a new regulation that if a player has not been paid for 90 days or the club is 90 days in arrears with his pay and bonuses, he will receive an automatic free transfer on application to the F.A.

● The Polish F.A. have announced that referees in the region of Opole are in so short supply that 150 games each week have no man in black. As a result they have pardoned 108 officials who have been suspended for major faults in the past four years. Blacklisted for wrongfully sending-off players, the suspended officials are being welcomed back into action to help solve the shortage.

● Ajax have replaced Ruud Krol by signing Danish international Tjor Ziegler from Roda JC. This gives Ajax four Danish internationals on their books.



● France's equivalent of George Best, controversial international winger Didier Six (above) has been transferred from Marseille to Belgian club Cercle Bruges.



● In October, César Luis Menotti (right) celebrates his sixth anniversary as Argentina's national team manager. His record to date reads: 66 matches played; 34 victories; 15 draws and 17 defeats. The goal average reads 117 for and 66 against. Top scorers in the Menotti era are Luque (21), Kempes and Passarella (16) and Bertoni (10). The player with most appearances to his credit is Américo Gallego with 56 caps.

● Nuremberg, newly-promoted to the West German Bundesliga, will have a new coach next season, Horst Heese. This was announced by the club president from his hospital bed, where he's recovering from a motor-bike accident!

● Pelé was recently detained at Frankfurt airport for more than two hours on arrival from New York. His passport had been out of date since 1976 and Pelé's excuse was . . . "I am never asked for it, and did not realise."

● For the first time in many years a Paris club topped the attendance charts in France last season. Paris St. Germain pulled in a total of 405,000 spectators, with St. Etienne in second place with 373,000 cash customers.



● Returning home from Italy, Dutch team manager Jan Zwartkruis (above) told the Press "The days of the super stars are over. Now there are just ordinary players in Holland and we must adjust to it."

● 70,000 fans watched Setif beat USK Algiers in the Algerian Cup Final thanks to a solitary goal from substitute Arabat in the 73rd minute. The amazing thing is that this was USK's seventh appearance in the Algerian Cup Final . . . and they've lost them all!

● The first season of professionalism in Greece produced a boom at the gate for some of the big clubs. Olympiakos topped the list with more than £8 million in gate receipts. Also the Disciplinary Committee of the professional League handed out 274 fines or suspensions on clubs, players AND referees!

● Trabzonspor won the Turkish Championship, losing only three times and drawing half of their matches. But once again, the dominant note in the Turkish League was a dismal lack of goals and a high proportion of draws. The average number of goals per game during the Championship was a miserly 1.7.

● Real Madrid made a profit of £200,000 last season after achieving the League and Cup double in Spain, and reaching the European Cup Semi-Finals. Their reserve team also made a profit of £100,000!



Read across for home games;
down for away, i.e. Arsenal
home to Aston Villa on May 2,
away to Aston Villa on Nov 29.
And you can add the results of
the matches in the spaces
below the dates.

ARSENAL	ASTON VILLA	BIRMINGHAM	COVENTRY	CRYSTAL PALACE	EVERTON	IPSWICH	LEEDS	LEICESTER	LIVERPOOL	MAN CITY	MAN UTD	MIDDLESBROUGH	NORWICH CITY	NOTTM FOREST	NOTTHAMPTON	STOKE CITY	SUNDERLAND	TOTTENHAM	WBA	WOLVES
MAY 2 MAR 14	JAN 31 APR 20	NOV 1 DEC 22	APR 20	NOV 22 DEC 27	APR 11	OCT 4	MAR 28	FEB 14	DEC 20	FEB 28	OCT 21	SEP 27	AUG 19	SEP 13	OCT 18	AUG 30	NOV 15	DEC 6		
NOV 29	DEC 13 OCT 22	AUG 30 FEB 21	SEP 13	FEB 14 NOV 15	JAN 10	JAN 10	MAR 14	APR 25	AUG 20	APR 18	MAR 28	DEC 26	OCT 4	OCT 18	APR 11	SEP 20				
OCT 7 OCT 11	FEB 7 AUG 16	NOV 8 MAY 2	DEC 20	APR 21	DEC 6	SEP 6	MAR 21	AUG 23	APR 4	FEB 20	NOV 11	JAN 17	OCT 25	DEC 27	NOV 22	SEP 20	MAR 7			
APR 4 DEC 20	SEP 13	MAR 7 DEC 27	OCT 7	NOV 11 MAY 2	APR 20	FEB 21	OCT 25	NOV 22	NOV 8	SEP 20	OCT 11	FEB 14	MAR 21	DEC 6	JAN 31	AUG 30	AUG 16			
AUG 23 JAN 17	NOV 15 OCT 4	SEP 6 SEP 27	FEB 28	NOV 1 MAR 14	AUG 19	JAN 10	APR 11	DEC 26	OCT 18	NOV 29	APR 25	APR 18	OCT 21	MAR 28	DEC 13	FEB 7				
CRYSTAL PALACE	DEC 26 SEP 27	APR 11 FEB 14	SEP 13	MAR 28 OCT 18	NOV 15	NOV 15	NOV 29	NOV 1	AUG 23	DEC 13	APR 25	OCT 21	JAN 10	MAR 14						
JAN 10 FEB 7	NOV 29 DEC 13	FEB 21 SEP 20	APR 16	DEC 13 MAR 17	MAR 14	AUG 19	OCT 18	DEC 26	MAR 27	APR 18	APR 11	AUG 23	OCT 4	APR 25	NOV 15	NOV 1	OCT 21	SEP 6		
APR 18	SEP 6 OCT 21	AUG 19 SEP 20	FEB 7	AUG 30 OCT 4	NOV 15	DEC 13	APR 25	OCT 26	JAN 10	APR 11	JAN 10	APR 11	JAN 11	MAR 28	MAR 14	MAR 14	MAR 1	FEB 21		
NOV 8 AUG 16	DEC 26 NOV 23	APR 4 OCT 25	NOV 23	OCT 11 MAR 7	AUG 30	APR 18	OCT 8	SEP 20	NOV 12	JAN 13	DEC 13	JAN 10	FEB 14	FEB 21	SEP 13	APR 25	MAR 21			
MAR 7 APR 4	APR 25 DEC 26	OCT 11 MAR 21	NOV 12 AUG 16	JAN 17	AUG 23	NOV 8	FFB 7	DEC 13	NOV 29	FFB 28	APR 18	OCT 8	SEP 6	SEP 27	JAN 10	OCT 25				
OCT 25 NOV 22	FEB 14 SEP 27	NOV 11 AUG 16	MAR 21 OCT 11	DEC 27	JAN 31	MAR 7	APR 20	OCT 7	AUG 30	NOV 8	FFB 28	APR 4	MAY 2	DEC 6	SEP 13	DEC 20				
SEP 6 AUG 23	OCT 18 MAR 28	NOV 22 MAY 2	APR 20	DEC 6	DEC 20	APR 11	OCT 4	FFB 21	JAN 17	NOV 1	FFB 7	NOV 15	SEP 20	AUG 20	OCT 22	MAR 14	DEC 27			
OCT 11 OCT 8	JAN 31 NOV 8	APR 4 OCT 4	APR 4	OCT 25	MAR 21	FEB 28	SEP 13	DEC 26	SEP 27	AUG 16	APR 25	MAR 7	NOV 29	DEC 13	AUG 30	FEB 14	APR 18	NOV 12		
SEP 20 DEC 6	NOV 1 APR 11	APR 21 JAN 31	DEC 27	MAY 2	AUG 19	OCT 21	MAR 14	AUG 30	NOV 15	OCT 4	SEP 6	OCT 18	FFB 21	FFB 7	DEC 20	MAR 28	NOV 22			
MAR 21 NOV 12	SEP 27 FEB 28	DEC 20 OCT 8	NOV 8	APR 20	AUG 23	MAY 2	JAN 17	APR 4	DEC 6	MAR 7	OCT 25	SEP 13	AUG 16	NOV 22	DEC 27	FEB 14	OCT 11			
FEB 21 DEC 27	AUG 20 MAR 14	MAY 2 DEC 6	JAN 31	NOV 22	OCT 22	SEP 20	APR 11	SEP 13	OCT 4	FEB 14	MAR 28		NOV 1	AUG 30	DEC 20	NOV 15	OCT 18	APR 20		
NOV 11 OCT 25	AUG 30 SEP 6	DEC 6 DEC 20	MAR 7	NOV 8	NOV 22	DEC 27	SEP 20	AUG 16	MAY 2	MAR 21	FEB 7	APR 4	OCT 4	JAN 11	JAN 31	APR 20	FEB 21	OCT 7		
FEB 7 APR 20	MAR 28 OCT 18	DEC 27 NOV 22	DEC 6	AUG 23	SEP 6	DEC 20	NOV 1	FEB 28	OCT 22	SEP 27	NOV 15	JAN 17	MAR 14				OCT 4	AUG 20	MAY 2	
DEC 13 MAR 7	APR 18 MAR 25	MAR 21 OCT 11	AUG 16	OCT 25	SEP 27	FEB 14	NOV 29	NOV 12	JAN 17	SEP 13	JAN 10	OCT 8	AUG 23	NOV 8				FEB 28	DEC 26	APR 4
JAN 17 MAR 21	JAN 10 AUG 23	OCT 25 NOV 12	APR 4	OCT 8	FEB 7	APR 25	DEC 13	SEP 6	OCT 11	APR 18	AUG 16	DEC 26	MAR 7	SEP 20				NOV 29	NOV 8	
AUG 16 NOV 8	FEB 28 JAN 17	OCT 8 MAR 7	DEC 20	APR 4	DEC 6	NOV 22	FEB 7	OCT 11	DEC 27	OCT 25	SEP 6	MAR 21	SEP 27	NOV 12	APR 20	MAY 2				
APR 25 FEB 28	OCT 4 NOV 15	SEP 13 AUG 30	FEB 14	SEP 27	OCT 18	MAR 28	OCT 21	APR 18	AUG 19	JAN 10	MAR 14	DEC 26	DEC 13	NOV 29	NOV 1	APR 11	JAN 31			

Read across for home games;
down for aways, i.e. Blackburn
home to Bolton on April 18,
away to Bolton on Dec 27.
And you can add the results of
the matches in the spaces
below the dates.

WEST HAM		WATFORD		SWANSEA		SHREWSBURY		WREXHAM	
BLACKBURN	APR 18	APR 11	NOV 29	OCT 22	NOV 15	OCT 18	FEB 14	SEP 20	SEP 13
BOLTON	DEC 27	OCT 18	SEP 6	NOV 1	FEB 7	OCT 4	JAN 17	NOV 22	MAY 2
BRISTOL CITY	NOV 8	DEC 13	AUG 23	JAN 10	DEC 26	APR 18	OCT 25	MAR 7	OCT 11
BRISTOL RVRS	MAY 2	FEB 14	JAN 31	OCT 4	FEB 28	MAR 14	NOV 22	AUG 30	DEC 19
CAMBRIDGE	DEC 20	APR 4	NOV 22	MAR 7	MAR 21	SEP 13	AUG 16	MAY 2	OCT 25
CARDIFF	AUG 16	SEP 13	APR 20	SEP 20	OCT 17	OCT 31	MAY 2	DEC 6	FEB 14
CHELSEA	MAR 21	MAR 7	DEC 27	OCT 8	FEB 7	APR 4	NOV 12	OCT 11	APR 20
DERBY	SEP 6	AUG 30	MAR 28	JAN 10	NOV 15	NOV 29	AUG 20	FEB 7	JAN 31
GRIMSBY	FEB 28	JAN 10	OCT 4	JAN 17	NOV 29	APR 25	DEC 13	MAR 14	SEP 11
LUTON	FEB 7	NOV 29	MAR 14	APR 18	MAR 28	JAN 10	DEC 26	FEB 21	APR 11
NEWCASTLE	DEC 6	JAN 31	DEC 20	FEB 21	APR 11	SEP 6	MAR 28	DEC 14	APR 13
NOTTS CO	OCT 25	AUG 16	FEB 28	OCT 11	DEC 26	SEP 27	NOV 8	OCT 7	DEC 20
OLDHAM	NOV 11	SEP 27	MAY 2	FEB 7	MAR 14	AUG 23	APR 13	DEC 6	APR 17
ORIENT	AUG 23	APR 25	NOV 1	NOV 15	AUG 19	JAN 17	OCT 21	SEP 6	DEC 13
PRESTON	APR 21	MAR 21	AUG 16	OCT 25	SEP 6	NOV 8	FEB 28	DEC 6	NOV 11
QPR	MAR 7	OCT 11	SEP 27	AUG 19	APR 25	DEC 13	JAN 17	MAR 21	APR 4
SHEFF WED	OCT 7	NOV 11	SEP 13	DEC 13	APR 18	OCT 11	JAN 10	MAR 7	APR 16
SHREWSBURY	JAN 17	OCT 7	DEC 6	NOV 8	SEP 20	OCT 25	DEC 19	APR 4	APR 11
SWANSEA	APR 4	FEB 28	DEC 14	SEP 30	APR 18	AUG 30	SEP 13	DEC 13	APR 25
WATFORD	NOV 22	NOV 8	AUG 30	MAR 21	JAN 31	MAR 7	SEP 27	OCT 7	MAY 2
WEST HAM	OCT 11	OCT 25	NOV 11	APR 4	FEB 21	OCT 7	FEB 14	DEC 20	APR 11
WREXHAM	SEP 27	DEC 26	OCT 21	APR 25	DEC 13	APR 19	NOV 15	FEB 28	APR 11

Read across for home names; down for away names; across for home to New York, down for away to New York. Barnsley home to New York, down for away to New York. Liverpool on May 2, away to New York on Dec. 6. And you can add the results of the matches in the spaces below the dates.

TAKE A BREAK—IT'S

Quiz Time



1. Former Bolton Wanderers manager Ian Greaves was recently appointed assistant-manager of which Fourth Division club?

2. Kevin Keegan made his debut for Southampton against Shamrock Rovers in a pre-season friendly. Did Saints win 2-1, 3-1 or 4-1?

3. With which club was Phil Boyer (right) when he won his only full England cap against Wales in 1976?

4. True or false? Chesterfield were once known as Chesterfield United.

5. Can you remember the Swindon Town hero who scored two goals in their shock 3-1 League Cup Final victory against mighty Arsenal in 1969 at Wembley?



6. Who was manager of the Scotland international side before Jock Stein took charge?

7. Which two clubs would be in opposition if the 1974 Football League Champions met the Scottish Cup winners of 1972 in a pre-season friendly?

8. Ron Harris, the former Chelsea stalwart, will be player-coach of which Third Division club this season?

9. If you follow
(a) The Stags, (b) The Latics, (c) The Terriers and (d) The Gills, which clubs would you be supporting?

10. Was Joe Corrigan (right) an ever-present for Manchester City during their League programme last season?



ANSWERS:

(d) Gillingham 10. Yes
Oldham 6. (e) Huddersfield and
Brentford 9. (f) Mansfield 8
Leeds United against Gillingham 7
Don Rogers 6. Ally McLeod 5
Middlesbrough 5. Ally McLeod 7
1. Hereford 2. 3-1. 3. Norwich
2. 3-1. 4. False — they were
known as Chesterfield Town
5. Hereford 2. 3-1. 3. Norwich
6. 3-1. 7. 3-1. 8. Cambridge 9. Brentford
10. Blackburn 11. Rotherham 12. Don
caster.

COMPUTER PUZZLE

COLIN TODD
Birmingham City



1. Played 173 League games for his first club.
2. Transferred to and gained the first of two League Champions' medals in 1972.
3. Gained his first full cap for England in 1972 against
4. Helped Derby to the Semi-Finals of the 1973 European Cup, where they were beaten by
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Kevin Keegan spearheads Southampton's attack alongside Phil Boyer this season, as I suspect he will, I can envisage them giving First Division defences a tough time.

They might not score too many goals with their heads — Dave Watson will supply the height at set pieces — but they could be dynamite if the ball is played to their feet in the box.

Keegan, rightly, has grabbed the headlines but I am sure that Lawrie McMenemy is just as anxious to see how Boyer, the leading scorer last season who grabbed three hat-tricks, responds to the England captain's influence at his side.

Their strength in front of goal, with Mike Channon, rejuvenated and fighting fit after a dismal time at Manchester City, using his pace and nose for goals in support, will be fluid mobility.

Catching a sheep in a sprint across a pasture is none too difficult even for me, but try and bag a ferret darting through the grass and it's like Harry Secombe chasing Steve Ovett!

That's the way it's going to be for First Division defenders unless they're at their sharpest when Keegan and Boyer are about.

Not many central defenders enjoy marking elusive, eel-like strikers who rely on speed and stealth rather than brawn and power. A quick look through the First Division teams reveals that many central defenders are large men.

Such is the organisation of First Division defences these days that Saints' couple won't have things all their way. Yet I can see them



'Keegan will boost Boyer'

becoming as difficult to mark as Trevor Francis and Garry Birtles at Nottingham Forest, or Kenny Dalglish and David Johnson at Liverpool. In one word, a nightmare!

I am fortunate at Crystal Palace in having two central defenders rather adept at putting the skids under Jack-in-the-box forwards. Jim Cannon and Billy Gilbert won't resort to strong-arm tactics, but they won't give Keegan an inch of space if

Phil Boyer was the First Division's top scorer last season. Keegan's arrival at The Dell could help him boost his goals tally even further.



they're on song.

However, I can see some of the less scrupulous defenders relying on brawn as opposed to brain in their efforts to stop Keegan.

The Italians showed the way to blot out the threat of Keegan during the European Championship by kicking him all over the park.

It might not have been pretty to watch, but there was no doubt it was effective. The idealist in me says that English defenders won't be using the same methods, but the realist in me says it is inevitable.

Southampton's home record last season was impressive. They won 14 of their 21 League games at The Dell. Their away form was unimpressive, 17 matches without victory.

I believe Keegan's signing will strengthen their performances away from home.

I shall enjoy watching "Mighty Mouse" in First Division action again. He's learned a lot since he's been away in West Germany. I've always enjoyed cobra-like strikers.

I cherish memories of Jimmy Greaves scoring goals for Chelsea, Tottenham and England. A Greavesey run from the halfway line, jinking past defenders before crashing the ball in the net, shrinks many a car journey from my home in Essex to Selhurst Park in South London.

Speed

The great Hungarian international Ferenc Puskas was another who could lose a marker in a flash. Speed off the mark is the key. Maradona's like lightning, so is Rossi (Italy), Luque (Argentina) and Sulser (Switzerland).

So signing Keegan has given Lawrie McMenemy a marvellous opportunity to launch Saints at Liverpool's League title.

Southampton's Cup fighting traditions are undisputed, but it will take Crystal Palace and the rest at their best to hold Boyer and Keegan.

I'd also like to wish Arsenal's new signing Clive Allen every success.

His father, Les, and I are old chums. We played for the same clubs, Chelsea and Tottenham. Les was a real pro, and I understand Clive is as sensible and level headed as his dad.

The £1.2 million fee Arsenal paid will rest easily on the lad's shoulders.

Who knows, he might be as good as Kevin Keegan one day.

Bob Arnabold

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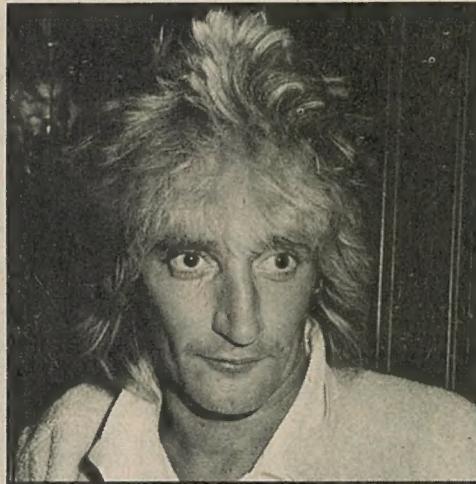
...but the Derby striker has no regrets

IN 18 games for Derby County, striker Alan Biley has already nurtured a reputation for himself as one of the most entertaining and exciting young talents in the country.

And the blond-haired Biley is the first to admit that he is revelling in the limelight which has suddenly fallen into focus on him.

The entire town of Derby has been set alight by the presence of the quicksilver goalgrabber whose arrival at the Baseball Ground last season from Cambridge United came just too late to save the club from relegation.

"Things have gone better than I could ever



have imagined," Biley confessed. "Although I didn't score in my first six games for the club the crowd just took to me instantly. Suddenly I seem to be their big favourite, and I must admit I think it's smashing.

"I will always find time to chat to the supporters and sign their autographs. I enjoy doing it, and it is all part and parcel of the footballer's image."

On the field as well Biley has an eye for the unconventional. His first duty is to carry out his job properly, but he is never slow to play up to the crowd with a quick wave or friendly gesture.

"When I first arrived at Derby things weren't going too well. Then the goals started to come, and the crowds were flocking in. People at the club say it is just like when Derby won the Championship in 1975, and I can well believe them," he continued.

As a youngster, Biley idolised Manchester United goal ace Denis Law, but denies that he has ever modelled himself on his former hero. Nevertheless, the comparisons are there to be made, and Biley is clearly flattered by such a connection.

His likeness to rock star Rod Stewart has also been noted, and Alan confesses that his long blond hairstyle has been the subject of some considerable mickey-taking.

"When I first arrived at Derby, all the lads christened me 'Rod', but that soon died down and now they use my old nick-name 'Bi-Bi'. If I'm not getting stick from away supporters, the Derby lads are ribbing me. It doesn't bother me, at least it shows people have noticed me!"

To listen to Biley talking, it would be hard to believe that his club have just been relegated. But looking at his present situation objectively, it could be argued that he is no better off now than when he was with Second Division Cambridge.

Biley does not look on matters in the same light. "I had to find out in my own mind if I was



Alan Biley has had to get accustomed to the comparisons with singer Rod Stewart

good enough for the First Division. Although I played only 18 games there, I think I have put my mind at rest. I can't wait to get back to the First Division after my brief spell at the top."

And to get back to the First Division, Alan is more than prepared to undergo another season playing in front of crowds of 5,000 at places such as Oldham, Shrewsbury ... and Cambridge.

"I have spent five years playing in bread and butter games with Cambridge, so it doesn't bother me in the slightest that I am facing another season in the Second Division."

Derby's first away games in the new season are at Cambridge and Luton — Biley's two previous clubs. He admits that going back to his old haunts is: "A bit special."

'Brilliant'

And Biley is also eager to renew his striking partnership with Dave Swindlehurst. "When 'Swindles' first arrived from Crystal Palace I was widely quoted as saying what a brilliant player he is.

"It appeared that I was crawling to Dave, but I really meant it, and still do. He is one of the biggest big-men around, and does a hell of a lot of work for a lad of his size. And he is a hell of a nice lad into the bargain."

"Dave is a very underestimated player, and certainly makes my job a lot easier. I honestly don't think I have ever played with a better front-man."

"But 'Swindles' isn't the only one at Derby who can play. We have a very good side at the Baseball Ground, and it would be impossible for me to say that I don't think we will be right up at the top of the table this season."

Derby boss Colin Addison clearly knew what he was doing when he signed Alan Biley from Cambridge for £350,000. For not only was he buying a talented goalscorer, but a public relations man as well!

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HIGGINS hopes to make his MARK

FOR Everton supporters, last season was one long series of disasters. There was defeat in the League Cup by Third Division Grimsby, the disappointment of losing an F.A. Cup Semi-Final replay to Second Division West Ham after leading 1-0 in the first game, and 19th place in the First Division table. At least they escaped relegation — but only by four points.

And for Everton central-defender Mark Higgins the season became a horrible nightmare.

Higgins, 21, began 1979-80 well. He played in 26 consecutive games for the first team. Then he fractured his left ankle in three places.

As Everton prepare for the new season, Higgins is sure what the club have to do.

"Really last season was a disgrace. I don't say that with any disrespect to the lads, but a club as big as Everton and with a reputation to maintain should not have finished as low in the First Division as we did.

"Now there is a feeling in the place that we can do so much better and we're all looking forward to playing with the new lads, Graeme Sharp from Dumbarton and Jim McDonagh from Bolton.

"Graeme, who is a striker, played against Forest in the last game of the season and looked good. I already knew Jim, and he is a great fellow. He soon became the dressing room clown, and is always good for a laugh. Goalkeepers seem to develop a sense of humour.

"Gordon Lee took a

lot of criticism last season but really there have been many times he cushioned the players from stick we deserved. He is a players' manager."

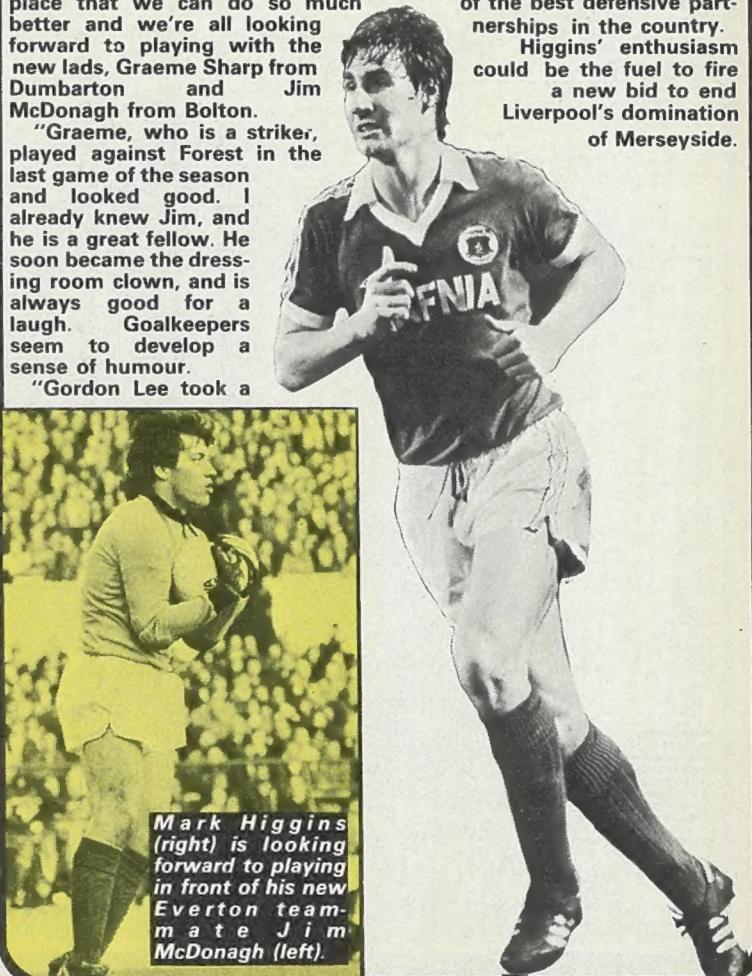
Higgins' injury prevented him from achieving a burning ambition. As a 15-year-old he captained the England Schoolboys for two years, and after that came Youth caps. But any further honours are still in the future.

"I believe I am good enough to play for the England senior side. I know there are several promising central defenders around. Russell Osman and Terry Butcher played in Australia, and there is also Billy Wright who plays alongside me at Everton.

"I am still young enough to represent the Under-21 side, and I might have been picked last season but for my injury."

So the new season represents much more than just the normal challenge to Higgins. He has to prove to the eager Goodison public that he can regain the form that helped he and Wright become one of the best defensive partnerships in the country.

Higgins' enthusiasm could be the fuel to fire a new bid to end Liverpool's domination of Merseyside.



Mark Higgins (right) is looking forward to playing in front of his new Everton team-mate Jim McDonagh (left).

FOCUS ON

JOHN WARK
Ipswich Town

FULL NAME: Johnny Wark
BIRTHPLACE: Glasgow
BIRTHDATE: August 4, 1957
HEIGHT: 5ft 10½ins
WEIGHT: 12st
PREVIOUS CLUBS: None
MARRIED: To Toula
CHILDREN: None
CAR: Ford Cortina 2 litres
FAVOURITE NEWSPAPER: The Sun
FAVOURITE PLAYER: Kenny Dalglish
MOST PROMISING TEAM-MATE:
 Kevin O'Callaghan
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Rangers
FOOTBALL HERO OF CHILDHOOD:
 Denis Law
FAVOURITE OTHER SPORTS:
 Squash and snooker
MOST DIFFICULT OPPONENT:
 Wouldn't let him know
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH:
 Playing against England at Wembley
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT:
 Losing the above game
FRIENDLIEST AWAY FANS:
 Liverpool
FAVOURITE FOOD & DRINK: A good
 Scottish fry-up and a can of lager
MISCELLANEOUS LIKES AND
DISLIKES: Scoring goals and
 winning/Smoking, losing, bad refs
FAVOURITE HOLIDAY RESORT:
 Greece
FAVOURITE T.V. STAR: Benny Hill
FAVOURITE ACTIVITY ON DAY OFF:
 A good long walk with my dog Bodie
FAVOURITE SINGERS: Bryan Ferry
 and Rod Stewart
AFTER-MATCH ROUTINE:
 Sometimes go out for a meal with
 the wife
BEST FRIEND: Paul Mariner
BIGGEST INFLUENCE ON CAREER:
 My dad and my older brother Alex
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 Scottish Youth, Under-21 and senior
 caps
PERSONAL AMBITION: A regular
 place in the Scotland and Ipswich
 teams for the next ten years
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WOULD YOU DO? A professional in
 another sport
WHICH PERSON IN THE WORLD
WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET?
 Billy Connolly

John Wark